FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

15 AUGUST 1983

Lebanon

Damascus television broadcast an announcer-read version of an interview granted by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to *The Los Angeles Times* and *The Washington Post*, in which Al-Asad insisted Syria will not withdraw from Lebanon until Israel withdraws without any preconditions. Al-Asad maintained that if the United States wants Syria to withdraw, it should make Israel implement the UN resolutions stipulating a total Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. Syrian withdrawal does not necessarily depend on the Palestinians regaining their rights, he added.

In response to a question on the chances of war with Israel, the Syrian leader acknowledged that war is possible because of Israel's "persistent desire for expansion and aggression." Nevertheless, it may be possible for Israel and the Arab world to coexist peacefully one day, he stated.

Al-Asad dismissed the talks held with U.S. envoy Robert McFarlane as not providing anything "new."

A Syrian paper, *Al-Ba'th*, editorial asserted that McFarlane is carrying out a campaign of "instigation and fabrication" against Syria, Damascus radio noted in its press review. McFarlane has forgotten that his instigations can create an "atmosphere of war" but he cannot undermine Syria's stand, the editorial concluded.

A second cease-fire was agreed on 14 August after the first failed to stop Druze forces from shelling Beirut and coastal areas, Beirut and Voice of Lebanon radios reported. Despite a statement by a Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) spokesman, cited by Radio Monte Carlo 12 August, that Beirut airport could resume civil aviation, PSP leader Walid Junblatt told *As-Safir* that the PSP will not allow the airport to reopen until the PSP demands have been met, according to Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon. The PSP will not allow the Lebanese Army to enter the Ash-Shuf until an agreement is reached, Junblatt stated.

Al-Ba'th accused the Lebanese Government of provoking the Ash-Shuf clashes and urged Al-Jumayyil to respond positively to the Druze demands, Damascus radio stated in its press review.

Syrian officers are supervising the shelling of the airport and other areas, the Voice of Lebanon announced. Phalangist forces commander Fadi Afram warned the Syrians against continuing to try to overthrow the government and threatened to strike at Syrian bases, according to the radio.

Following a "sharp" message from Israel stating that the IDF will redeploy its forces in the Ash-Shuf without regard for developments in the area unless the Lebanese Government intervenes immediately, President al-Jumayyil decided to intervene directly in the Ash-Shuf Mountains, the Israeli paper *Ma'ariv* disclosed. Israel also warned Druze leaders against escalating the fighting with the Phalangist forces. Security sources cited by Jerusalem radio claimed Al-Jumayyil has softened his attitude toward the Druze and is ready to comply with some of their demands.

Meanwhile, the National Salvation Front adopted the 10 PSP demands submitted to the government last week, according to Damascus radio.

In a speech broadcast by Voice of Hope radio 13 August, Major Sa'd Haddad referred to rumors of an attempt on his life and stated that his enemies believe that killing him will solve their problems because they are not able to muster convincing arguments to persuade the people to their side. Maj Haddad did not confirm or deny the assassination attempt in the speech.

PLO Affairs

PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and Yar President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih are trying to arrange a meeting between PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and Fatah dissident leaders in Aden, the Jordanian paper *Sawt ash-Sha'b* and Radio Monte Carlo revealed. An Arab source cited by the radio stated that 'Arafat may agree provided the leaders attend as Fatah members and not as opposition leaders. The dissident delegation in Aden met with PLO representatives to discuss the aims of the movement, Damascus radio said.

Meanwhile, a "distinguished Palestinian source" confirmed news that dissident leader Colonel Sa'id Musa has been placed under house arrest in Damascus after "sharp differences" erupted between Col Musa and other leaders on resolving the Fatah dispute, according to the Kuwaiti paper *Al-Hadaf*. Amman Radio, citing reports from Beirut, announced that Col Musa was in the hospital after being wounded in an assassination attempt "last week."

Syria

Syria intelligence detained 12 Air Force officers in Damascus on charges of actions harming the state's security, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. The radio also reported clashes between the Muslim Brotherhood and Syrian special forces in Homs and Dar'a.

Libya-Chad

In an interview with U.S. television networks, Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi again denied that Libyan forces are fighting in Chad and insisted that Libya is "neutral" in the dispute, according to JANA. Al-Qadhdhafi maintained that although Libya had supported Goukouni Oueddei's forces

in the past, it stopped this support "a long time ago." Libya not only has no forces in Chad but there are no forces deployed along the Chadian border, he stated. In response to a question on U.S. ships and aircraft in the area, the Libyan leader reiterated the warning that any U.S. aircraft deployed against Libya which "affects" it will be destroyed in "self-defense," JANA continued.

The Chadian Government called for direct U.S. and French intervention against "Libyan aggression" in a communique cited by AFP. President Hissein Habre also sent a letter to OAU Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, urging the OAU to convene a meeting on the Chad dispute "as soon as possible," AFP added. Former President Goukouni Oueddei also sent a letter to the OAU chairman, proclaiming his readiness to cooperate with the OAU in resolving the dispute, JANA reported. Meanwhile, the Chadian Government and the Transitional National Union Government of of Chad (GUNT) both declared their willingness to negotiate, according to AFP and Radio Bardai reports.

Chadian Information Minister Soumalia Mahamat claimed that Libya continued "heavy bombing" of Oum Chalouba, which had been recaptured earlier by government forces, AFP stated. Libyan planes also bombed Koro-Toro where the Chadian forces retreated after evacuating Faya-Largeau, a later AFP report added. A GUNT communique broadcast by Radio Bardai claimed that over 800 government troops were killed in the fighting at Faya-Largeau.

Additional French Troops may be sent to Chad, French Defense Minister Charles Hernu stated, according to AFP. In an interview broadcast by Paris radio, government spokesman Max Gallo emphasized France's concern over the situation and stated that France is adapting its policy in Chad as the situation evolves.

Meanwhile, the French paratroop commander in Chad confirmed that French troops had flown to Abeche in eastern Chad and asserted that if the troops are attacked, they will "defend themselves," Paris radio reported. Israeli military personnel are also in Chad as instructors for the Zairean Army, the Israeli paper *Ha'aretz* announced.

In separate developments, Secretary of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi met GUNT's secretary for foreign affairs to discuss the current situation in Chad and bilateral relations, JANA reported. The Chadian ambassador to Algeria refused an order to return to Ndjamena after the Chadian Government recalled him in condemnation of Algeria's stand on the present conflict, JANA noted. The envoy stressed that he does not recognize the government as legitimate, JANA added.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Two Iraqi missile attacks on the Iranian town of Andimeshk on 13 August killed 27 and injured 200, Tehran radio reported.

In a "fierce battle" east of Zurbatiyah, Iraqi forces foiled an Iranian attack, according to an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio. An Iranian military communique broadcast by Tehran radio reported Iranian troops continuing to strengthen their defensive positions on the Mehran front.

Saudi Arabia

In a statement to SPA, Saudi Pilgrimage and Awqaf Minister 'Abd al-Wahhab 'Abd al-Wasi rejected Iranian allegations that the Kingdom has refused to rent houses to Iranian pilgrims.

The Iranian threat to blockade the Strait of Hormuz if Iraq damages Iranian oil resources only reflects Iran's "hallucinations, madness, confusion, anxiety, and chaos," an *'Ukaz* article commented. The Gulf states still harbor high hopes that Iran will realize that its interests are not served by harming the security of the Gulf, the article added.

Pakistan

In a speech to the Federal Advisory Council in Islamabad broadcast by Karachi radio, President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq announced the decision to restore the 1973 Constitution amended to balance the president's and prime minister's powers and to conform with Islamic principles. He declared that local elections are "to be started now" and provincial and national elections to be completed by 23 March 1985. AFP reported from Islamabad that "thousands" demonstrated in the streets there and in other towns demanding a return to democracy. According to the report, over 200 opposition officials were arrested.

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Fatah Rebels Said Ready To Negotiate With PCC

LD131813 Kuwait KUNA in English 1730 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Damascus, Aug 13 (KUNA) — The breakaway group of the mainstream Fatah Palestinian commando movement announced here Saturday its readiness to negotiate with the 18-member committee assigned by the Palestine Central Council to heal the rift and reconcile the movement with Syria.

The fortnightly *Al Taamin* [spelling as received] magazine, organ of the breakaway group, said "despite the shortcomings stipulated in the final statement of the PCC, the group welcomes the committee and is ready to hold talks with all committees formed for that purpose — to convey to them that the deviation in Fatah and the PLO leadership is what threatens the Palestinian cause, Fatah, and the PLO." The publication claimed that the fighting between 'Arafat opponents and supporters in the Lebanese Al-Biqa' valley "gives a cover for 'Arafat's leadership to pull out the forces from the Al-Biqa' and north Lebanon in accordance with American demands."

The PCC committee is scheduled to arrive here Monday for a series of meetings with the breakaway leaders and the Syrian leadership.

Palestine Liberation Organization spokesman 'Abu al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar said the Palestinian delegation is to convey the PCC's wish to preserve the unity of Fatah and introduce democratic reforms. The delegation would convey to the Syrian leadership the desire of the council to forge a fraternal and fateful alliance between Syria and the PLO with the aim of confronting the Zionist-American conspiracies, he added.

PDRY President To Mediate Between Fatah Groups

JN141246 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] A well-informed Arab source announced in Tunis today that PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad seems to be currently trying to mediate between Yasir 'Arafat and the Fatah opposition.

The aim is to arrange a meeting between 'Arafat and the Fatah dissidents' delegation which has been visiting Aden since 10 August and which includes two opposition leaders: Abu Salih [Nimr Salih] and Samih Abu Quwayq. The PDRY president received them on Friday.

Officially, last Thursday the PLO ruled out the possibility of holding such a meeting. This was stated by its Aden representative 'Abbas Zaki. However, the Arab source mentioned above said 'Arafat may agree to such a meeting, provided Nimr Salih and Abu Quwayq take part in this meeting as Fatah members and not as opposition leaders, and provided the talks during the meeting are confined to the differences within the Fatah movement.

Dissident Leader Sa'id Musa Reportedly Shot

JN132132 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Reports from the Lebanese capital said that Colonel Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], leader of the dissidents in the Fatah movement, was the victim of an assassination attempt near the end of last week. Information arriving in Beirut said that a woman opened fire on Abu Musa while he was in his new office in Darzaynun. The information said that he was wounded by several shots, after which he was taken to a hospital.

More on Musa Shooting

NC131224 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] It has been reported that Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], leader of the Fatah dissidents, has been hospitalized in Damascus for injuries he suffered. The reports said that Abu Musa was subjected to an assassination attempt when a Palestinian woman, whose husband was killed in the fighting between the loyalists and dissidents, entered his office on the pretext of seeking some assistance. When the woman was given permission to enter the office, she brandished a 6-mm pistol and shot him several times in various parts of his body.

Source Confirms Sa'id Musa Now Under House Arrest

GF141404 Kuwait Al-Hadaf in Arabic 13 Aug 83 p 1

[Excerpt] A distinguished Palestinian source has told *Al-Hadaf* that the news published about Abu Musa, leader of the military wing opposed to Yasir 'Arafat, being under house arrest in Damascus was correct. The source pointed out that sharp differences have erupted between Abu Musa, Khalid al-'Umlah, and Ahmad Jibril on the necessity of stopping clashes between the Palestinian parties and the necessity of adopting dialogue as a means for settling the quarrel going on between two parties within Fatah.

Abu Musa's view was to stop military operations and assaults on the positions of 'Arafat loyalists in Al-Biqa' to pave the way for the mediation of the Central Council which recently held a meeting in Tunis and to facilitate the work of the committee emerging from the council, while the opinion of Al-'Umlah and Ahmad Jibril was to continue military operations to force 'Arafat loyalists to withdraw from the Al-Biqa'. The views of Al-'Umlah and Jibril were favored, and that is why Abu Musa was recalled to Damascus to be placed under house arrest.

PNC's Khalid al-Fahum Views Mediation Efforts

GF131940 Kuwait Al-Qabas in Arabic 12 Aug 83 p 15

[Exclusive statement by Khalid al-Fahum, chairman of the Palestine National Council, to Al-Qabas in Damascus]

[Excerpt] Khalid al-Fahum, chairman of the Palestine National Council, has revealed that three articles for mending the

Palestinian-Syrian split and for holding dialogue inside the Fatah movement were approved by the Fatah Central Committee yesterday following its meetings chaired by Yasir 'Arafat. He said that an 18-member delegation of the national council will begin its work next Monday by paying a visit to Damascus, and that the national council will not hold an exceptional session because it fears that such a session would lead to a sharp division within the PLO.

In his exclusive statement to *Al-Qabas*, Khalid al-Fahum said: The Central Committee has approved the following three articles:

1. The Central Committee has decided to stop the information propaganda campaign.

2. The Central Committee wishes to hold a dialogue with the brothers in Syria through a delegation from it, in order to put things in their correct places on the basis of the necessity of establishing comprehensive coordination with Syria that is based on clear principles.

3. The Central Committee has assigned four of its members to conduct individual or collective dialogue with the brothers in the Fatah movement who are responsible for the events which recently took place in the Palestinian arena. These members are Brothers Abu al-Lutf, Khalil al-Wazir (alias Abu Jihad), Abu Mahir Ghunaym, and Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid.

Al-Fahum expressed optimism that the coming few days will witness favorable results. He said: We have no alternative other than the unity of Fatah. We have to continue to exert efforts for achieving this goal. This, certainly, needs time.

PLO Mediation Committee Leaves for Syria

JN151040 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1000 GMT 15 Aug 83

[Text] An informed source in the Jordanian capital has said that the members of the special committee formed by the PLO Central Council with the aim of mediating differences with Syria and solving the Fatah conflict left Amman for Damascus this morning.

The committee — which consists of 15 members — is coordinating its activities with the special 6-member committee formed by the PLO. It is led by PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum, who is entrusted with the task of undertaking mediation with Syrian leaders.

Syria Urged To Rebuild Bridges With Fatah

NC142044 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1730 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Filistin Ath-Thawrah 14 August editorial: "Conditions Are Ripe for Solving the Difference With Damascus"]

[Text] Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] said after the PLO Central Council meeting that the door is wide open for solving the difference with Damascus. Abu Jihad said yesterday that we are prepared to do anything to solve the differences with Damascus. The Central Council has emphasized the Syrian-Palestinian-Lebanese alliance and sent a delegation for talks to Damascus. Needless to say, the Palestinian organizations that are not subjected to Syrian pressure have affirmed in all their statements the imperativeness of Syrian-Palestinian strategic relations. The leaders of small organizations such as the As-Sa'iqah and the General Command have constantly been reiterating the slogan of the Palestinian-Syrian unity of struggle, because Palestine is the southern flank of Syria and Syria is the northern flank of Palestine.

However, this constant affirmation of the strategic relations and the sincere Palestinian attempts to heal the rift that followed Syria's support of the dissident movement in Fatah have been met with silence in Damascus. In addition to the reiteration of the same position — that the difference is not between Syria and Fatah but rather between the two Fatah (?factions) — Damascus says the dissidents' demands must be met. This situation has been going on for three months. Actually, its results have been [word indistinct] to the two sides — to Syria and to the PLO.

Today, in light of the suspension of the information campaign and the calm that prevails in the Al-Biqa' — which we hope will continue and will be consolidated between the comrades-in-arms — we think that [words indistinct] demand that Syria [words indistinct] the PLO; the Fatah movement, [words indistinct], especially that the Abu Salih and Jibril group and even the As-Sa'iqah are not (?accepted) on the Arab and international levels as a revolutionary substitute to the leadership of Yasir 'Arafat, which is backed and supported by the resolutions of the 16th PNC session. Furthermore, the Syrian national and pan-Arab interests demand that Damascus take action to stop jeopardizing the unity of the fighters and to stop jeopardizing the international position of the PLO [words indistinct] Arab and international recognition, as Reagan [words indistinct].

In its recent session, the Central Council proved that these groups are isolated and rejected and that there is a decisive Palestinian consensus for unity, legitimacy, independent decisionmaking, and collective leadership. Three months are considered a sufficient period to convince everyone of the impossibility of carrying out a military and political coup in the Palestinian arena. The Palestinian revolution has over 25 years of military and political struggle.

On the basis of these facts and considerations, we approach Damascus and say the national interest will not be realized by the absence of the Palestinian revolution or by the imposition of fighting among the fighters. We are confident that the conditions are now riper than at any time before to solve the secondary differences and to correct the bilateral relations. [Words indistinct] in this relationship cannot end in the face of fabricated differences caused by irresponsible decisions on this or that level.

The Fatah movement, its leader Yasir 'Arafat, and its fighters in the Al-Biqa' and the north expect Damascus to rebuild the bridges with Fatah and the PLO. Fatah and Syria have no interest in this conflict and differences, especially if Damascus deals with the issue of the two Fatah factions from a comprehen-

sive national aspect and from a deeper aspect of our struggle against Zionism and imperialism. In brief, the ball is now in Damascus' court.

Soviet Stance on USSR-PLO Relations Outlined

GF110610 Jidda Al-Madinah in Arabic 5 Aug 83 p 1

[Text] Tunis — The newspaper *Al-Madinah* has learned from reliable Palestinian sources that a senior Soviet official unveiled to PLO Executive Committee member Abu Iyad, during his recent visit to Moscow, a number of facts on the Soviet position towards what is currently taking place between the PLO and Syria.

1. Moscow would like the PLO to solve its differences with Syria directly.

2. Moscow will continue to provide moral support for the PLO in all international organizations. But as for the military support, Moscow believes that the PLO no longer has the need to use [the] weapons].

3. Moscow is convinced that it has no genuine allies among the Palestinians and in the Arab world.

Moreover, the Soviet official divides the Arabs into two parts: One part that looks forward to the efforts of the United States and another that looks forward to reaching Washington via Moscow. The source added that the visit by 'Arafat to Moscow next month will actually take place after the events in Lebanon have crystallized and after developments have been clarified following the visit of Shultz to the region.

Al-'Asifah Forces Assail Phalangist Party

JN142133 Damascus SANA in Arabic 2000 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Damascus, 14 Aug (SANA) -- The Al-'Asifah Forces General Command [AFGC] has decided to support the Lebanese National Salvation Front [NSF] in its struggle against the unpatriotic policy that the Lebanese authority is practicing and against the filthy ambitions that are moving the Phalangist party.

In a statement he read last night in the name of the [AFGC], Brother Jihad Salih announced that the Al-'Asifah forces will not allow the Phalangist party — which is seeking to monopolize authority in Lebanon and spread hegemony over Lebanon's institutions, and which massacred women and children in Sabra and Shatila in collusion with the tools of the Zionist occupation — to carry out U.S. policy against the region through the Lebanese gate.

Jihad Salih also announced that the Al-'Asifah forces will place all its material and military capabilities in the service of the aims for which the NSF is struggling. He said they do this by escalating the struggle until the Zionist occupation is removed and Lebanon is rescued from the Phalangist party's hegemony and domination.

PLO Scores Renewed Liberian-Israeli Relations

NC150818 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0653 GMT 15 Aug 83

[Text] The PLO deeply regrets the action taken by Liberia in restoring its relations with Israel.

A spokesman for the political department has described the action as a stab in the back to the African struggle against apartheid and its ally Israel. The spokesman ridiculed the Liberian claim that the restoration of relations aims at facilitating and finding a just settlement to the Middle East problem. He said that this claim has little objectivity and credibility. The spokesman explained that such an action encourages Israel to maintain its occupation of Arab territory and its racist practices against the Palestinian Arab people.

'Arafat Sends Personal Envoy to African Leaders

JN141735 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has sent a personal envoy to the leaders of several African countries. The Palestinian News Agency, WAFA, has learned that the envoy of brother leader Abu 'Ammar will meet with Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere and will give him a private message dealing with the situation in the occupied land, the vicious attacks against our people in Lebanon, and the Zionist conspiratorial schemes against our people. The message also deals with the liquidatory schemes that aim to deal a blow to the unity of our Palestinian people, their rallying around the legitimacy of the PLO representation, and the status of the PLO as the sole representative of our Palestinian people.

'Arafat Reportedly To Visit France in October

GF130518 Manama WAKH in English 1515 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Paris, August 12 (WAKH) — PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat is likely to visit France in October, Palestinian sources said today. Mr 'Arafat will meet with French President Francois Mitterand and review Palestinian, Arab, and international issues, the sources said.

Mr 'Arafat's political adviser, Mr Hani al-Hasan, concluded a three-day visit to France last week during which he held talks with French officials. The sources described the talks as important. The talks focussed on Mr 'Arafat's proposed visit in October and Palestinian-French relations.

Meanwhile, press reports in Paris hinted at the possibility of Mr 'Arafat meeting President Mitterand in Tunis. The French president is expected to visit Tunisia by the end of the year.

GULF AFFAIRS

Omani Foreign Minister on Upcoming GCC Summit

GF142000 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1810 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Muscat, 14 Aug (WAKH) — Yusuf al-'Alawi, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, said that the agenda of the GCC summit conference, which is scheduled to be held in Doha on 7 November, includes various subjects, some of which are the recommendations approved by the committees emerging from the GCC General Secretariat.

In a statement broadcast by the Omani radio this evening, the Omani minister said that the GCC ministerial council meeting, which will be held by the foreign ministers on the 22d of this month, will discuss these recommendations in preparation for submitting them to the summit conference. Al-'Alawi added in his statement that the upcoming GCC summit will be presented a work plan for cooperation among the GCC states in the various economic and political fields and the fields of security and defense.

Regarding a meeting that he held with Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal this morning, he said that he discussed with Saudi Foreign Minister, who concluded a visit to Oman today, the issue of the Iraqi-Iranian war, in addition to a number of matters concerning the region. He said that he also exchanged views with him on the progress of this war and the steps which should be taken by the Gulf states to confront this situation.

He said that he also exchanged views with Prince Sa'ud on the Lebanese crisis and Arab issues. He affirmed that the views of the GCC states on the Arab issues are identical.

Gulf Experts Identify Area For Oil Slick Study

GF140515 Manama Gulf Daily News in English 14 Aug 83 p 1

[Text] Experts of the eight-nation Regional Organisation for the Protection of Marine Environment (ROPME) have defined a spot in the Gulf waters between Saudi Arabia and Iran for research purposes on the giant Iranian oil slick that has been threatening the Gulf region for seven months.

'Abd al-Latim az-Zaydan, ROPME's general coordinator, says this marked the "first step in the implementation of an emergency combat plan against the slick."

ROPME includes representatives of Iraq, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman and the United Arab Emirates.

A vessel carrying experts from the eight states would head to that designated are and "ensnare" samples of the slick for analysis.

So far, all efforts by ROPME for a joint combat operation against the slick have been held up because of Iran's objection to any Iraqi personnel approaching the damaged Iranian Nowruz offshore oilfield from which crude is leaking into the Gulf waters at the rate of 2,000 to 4,000 barrels daily.

More than 250,000 barrels of crude oil are now estimated to be "swimming" in the northern sector of the Gulf, a zone of the 35-month-old war between Iraq and Iran.

Patches have been swept to the shores of other Gulf states.

Az-Zaydan said that the representatives of Iraq and Iran "did not disagree" this time when the research spot was marked out for the vessel to enter with squads from all states aboard "Iraq included."

However, the project costs bd 3,500,000 and needs to be approved by all eight ROPME states, Az-Zaydan said.

So far, only the governments of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Bahrain endorsed, the plan, he added.

Official replies were still awaited from Iran, Iraq, the UAE, Qatar and Oman, said Az-Zaydan.

Saudi Arabia and Iran also "must coordinate" before the research vessel sets sail, Az-Zaydan added.

ROPME experts have been in session on and off since March over means of combatting the slick threat. The organization itself is four years old.

KUNA: Oil Slick Threatening Gulf Navigation

LD131513 Kuwait KUNA in English 1130 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 13 (KUNA) — A senior environment official was quoted here Saturday as stating that the continued flow of oil from the damaged Iranian offshore field of Nowruz was threatening to block navigation in the Arabian Gulf.

General coordinator of the Kuwait-based Regional Organisation for Protection of the Marine Environment (ROPME), 'Abd al-Latif az-Zaydan, told a local paper that though 40 per cent of the oil flowing into the Gulf waters either evaporates or precipitates, the pollution hazard remains to exist as an urgent problem.

Az-Zaydan added that ROPME's contingency plan to fight the slick beyond the zone of military operations between warring Iraq and Iran will cost some 10 million dollars over a period of six months.

The official, however, discounted any threat to water desalination plants in the gulf states where "all necessary precautionary measures have been taken to guard against oil pollution," he said.

Az-Zaydan complained that the organisation faces such difficulties as incomplete administrative set-up, inadequate trained hands and red-tape which tend to delay execution of plans and action programmes at the required speed.

Besides warring Iraq and Iran, ROPME includes the Gulf littoral States of Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain, the UAE and Oman.

BAHRAIN

YAR Foreign Minister Arrives in Manama 13 August

GF131810 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1745 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Manama, 13 Aug (WAKH) — YAR Foreign Minister 'Ali Lutfi ath-Thawr arrived in Manama this evening for a visit to the State of Bahrain within his current tour of a number of the region's states.

The Yemeni minister was received upon his arrival by Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah.

Received by Deputy Amir

GF141015 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0930 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Manama, 14 Aug (WAKH) — Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, Bahraini deputy amir and heir apparent, received in Manama this morning 'Ali Lutfi ath-Thawr, YAR foreign affairs minister, who arrived in Bahrain yesterday.

The audience was attended by Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak al Khalifah, Bahraini minister of foreign affairs.

The YAR foreign affairs minister said he conveyed during the meeting a message to His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the amir of Bahrain, from 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, the YAR president. The message deals with current Arab issues and ways to expand the relations between the two countries. It also deals with the current Arab situation and threats to the Arab nation. The YAR foreign affairs minister added that he reviewed the situation in depth with his highness the Bahraini deputy amir and exchanged views with him on what responsible steps should be taken on the Arab level to achieve the necessary results.

KUWAIT

YAR Foreign Minister Ends Visit 13 August

LD131853 Kuwait KUNA in English 1659 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 13 (KUNA) — The Arab Republic of Yemen's Minister of Foreign Affairs 'Ali Lutfi Ath-Thawr left here Saturday after delivering a message from President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to H.H. the amir of Kuwait. During his visit, Ath-Thawr met with Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of Information Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad al-Jabir.

OMAN

Saudi Foreign Minister Arrives With Message

GF140735 Salalah Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi foreign minister, arrived in the country last night on an official visit to the Sultanate carrying a message to His Majesty Sultan Qabus from his brother King Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

On arrival, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal made a statement to the radio and television correspondent and journalists saying: This message is within the context of the cooperation and exchange of views between the Sultanate and Saudi Arabia, particularly concerning the next GCC meeting.

Meets With Foreign Minister

GF141020 Doha QNA in Arabic 0915 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Muscat, 14 Aug (QNA) — Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, Omani minister of foreign affairs, and Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the Saudi minister of foreign affairs who arrived in Muscat last night, have discussed current Gulf developments in general and developments in the Iraqi-Iranian war in particular.

The QNA correspondent in Muscat has learned that during their meeting this morning, the two sides reviewed a number of GCC issues as well as cooperation between Oman and Saudi Arabia.

Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal then left for the city of Salalah, where he is scheduled to meet with His Majesty Sultan Qabus of Oman this afternoon.

Gives Sultan Qabus Message

GF141452 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Excerpt] His Majesty Sultan Qabus received in his office at Al-Hisn Palace in Salalah at noon today Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, who delivered to him a message from King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz on bilateral relations.

Djibouti Foreign Minister Arrives 15 August

GF151045 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0835 GMT 15 Aug 83

[Text] Muscat, 15 Aug (WAKH) — Djibouti Foreign Affairs and Cooperation minister Moumin Bahdon Farah arrived in Muscat today for a visit of several days to the Sultanate of Oman.

The Djibouti minister is carrying a message from Djibouti President Hassan Gouled to Sultan of Oman Qabus ibn Sa'id. During this visit, he will also hold talks with Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah dealing with the current developments on the Arab and international arenas in addition to bilateral relations.

QATAR

Saudi Foreign Minister Arrives 14 August

GF141408 Doha QNA in Arabic 1305 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Doha, 14 Aug (QNA) — Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal arrived in Doha from the Sultanate of Oman this afternoon for a brief visit to the State of Qatar.

He was received on arrival at Doha airport by Qatari Interior Minister Shaykh Khalid ibn Hamad Al Thani.

In a statement to QNA, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal said that his visit to the State of Qatar is aimed at consulting and coordinating with officials on the issues that are of interest to both countries, especially amid these difficult circumstances faced by the Arabian Gulf region and the Arab region in general.

He added that his vist is also aimed at consulting and coordinating in preparation for the upcoming GCC ministerial council's meeting in At-Ta'if on 22 August.

Meets Officials, Departs

GF141854 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1805 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Doha, 14 Aug (WAKH) — Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal left Doha this evening after a short visit to Qatar.

He met with His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, deputy amir and heir apparent, and reviewed with him bilateral relations and means of developing them. They also exchanged views and held consultations on current Gulf and Arab issues.

SAUDI ARABIA

Lebanon's Walid Junblatt Arrives 12 August

Meets With Foreign Minister

LD131025 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0950 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] At-Ta'if, 13 Aug (SPA) — Today, His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister, had a meeting with the head of the Lebanese Socialist Progressive Party, Walid Junblatt. The current developments in the Lebanese arena were discussed at the meeting, which was attended by the head of the Arab Department of the Foreign Ministry, Isma'il ash-Shuri. Junblatt arrived in the Kingdom last night.

Received by King Fahd

LD131445 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1402 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] At-Ta'if, 13 Aug (SPA) — This afternoon at his office in At-Ta'if, His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received the head of the Lebanese Socialist Progressive Party, Walid Junblatt, who is paying a visit to the Kingdom.

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Badr ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy commander of the National Guard; His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister; and Minister of Information 'Ali ash-Sha'ir.

Defense Minister Receives Somali Delegation

GF141738 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and minister of defense and aviation, received at his office in At-Ta'if today the Somali delegation led by the Somali Foreign Affairs Minister Abdurahman Jama Barre, who is currently visiting the Kingdom. During the meeting bilateral relations were discussed.

The Somali delegation, which comprises Finance Minister Abdullahi Ahmad Addu; Commerce Minister Mohamed Omar Jama; Livestock, Forestry and Range Minister Mohamed Ali Nur, and a number of Somali officials, arrived in At-Ta'if this morning from Jidda within the framework of its current visit to the Kingdom.

Turkish Finance Minister Concludes Visit 12 August

LD121647 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1445 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Jidda, 12 Aug (SPA) — Turkish Minister of Finance Adnan Baser Kafaouglu left here this evening for home at the end of a visit during which he was received by King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and met with his Saudi counterpart Muhammad Aba al-Khayl.

He was seen off at the airport by President of the Islamic Development Bank, Dr Ahmad Muhammad 'Ali and the Turkish ambassador and a number of officials.

Minister Announces Opening of 2d English TV Channel

GF121830 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in English Second Channel 1605 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Speech by Saudi Information Minister 'Ali Hasan ash-Sha'ir on the Occasion of the Opening of the Experimental Transmission of the Second English Television Channel on 12 August 1983 — live or recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the Merciful, the compassionate. "So high exalted be God, the true King. And hasten not with the Koran before its revelation is accomplished unto you; and say, '0 my Lord, increase me in knowledge.'" Pease be on the last of the prophets. Muhammad, and his scion and companions. Brothers and sisters, peace and God's mercy and blessings be upon you. With God's blessings and help, I am honored and pleased to proclaim at this historic hour of this blessed day the birth of the second channel of the television of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in its experimental stage, in implementation of His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, may God protect him, and in fulfillment of the aspirations and interests of his majesty's government and the wishes of honorable citivens.

In its principles and objectives this channel stems from the same good sources of its older sister. Together with the other channel the second channel will broadcast religious, cultural and educational programs, foremost among which is the message of Islam, its tenets and teachings, to all brothers of the Muslim nation,

residing and worshiping in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The second channel will also give special attention to non-Arabic speakers, to explain Islamic thinking and consolidate Islamic concepts in their minds. The second channel will also contribute toward embodying the goals of enlightened information media in carrying out its national responsibilities that aim to highlight Saudi Arabia's spiritual values and social customs, its great achievements in various scientific, cultural, construction, industrial, agricultural and development fields, as well as the various means it provided the citizen in order to live a dignified life in security, prosperity and happiness.

The second channel will be an instrument to diversify the sources of education through information and innocent entertainment, within the framework of the preservation of religious, ethical and social values.

In its experimental transmission the second channel will cover the areas that have been announced. As for the other areas they will be covered as soon as the projects for television information coverage are completed in accordance with the set schdules, God willing.

I thank all those who have contributed with the Ministry of Information in accomplishing this vital project, the sincere workers of the Ministry of Posts, Telephones and Telegraph. I thank my colleagues in the Ministry of Information, administrators, journalists, engineers and technicians.

In conclusion, I would like to say to the honorable listeners that the Ministry of Information is now studying a blueprint for a comprehensive development of all its information media. We hope to begin implementing the plan with the advent of the new Hegira year, God willing. If you note shortcomings or stumbling in the progress of our present programs, we apologize to you and promise to make every effort in the search for what is better and more perfect. We welcome all sincere criticism that reaches us by mail, telegram, or telephone. We pay great attention and study such criticism. As for certain criticism which we read in the press every now and then, we ignore such criticism, hoping that its authors will one day understand the methods of constructive and purposeful criticism.

I thank you for listening and thank God for his blessings and success. I ask the Almighty to make us always worthy of the confidence of officials and enable us to fulfill the aspirations of listeners and viewers. Peace and God's mercy and blessings be upon you.

GULF DAILY NEWS Expects More Saudi Devaluations

GF150520 Manama Gulf Daily News in English 15 Aug 83 p 15

[Excerpts] Bahrain — Saudi Arabia's devaluation yesterday of the riyal, the second in a week, might suggest a shift in the country's exchange rate policy, foreign exchange dealers said.

The Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (SAMA) adjusted the riyal's value to 3.48 to the dollar from 3.47, only one week after it had devalued it from 3.45.

The dealers described the two devaluations on successive Sundays as unusual, and an apparent departure from the Kingdom's policy since august 1981 of occasional adjustments in the currency's fixed value against the dollar.

They said the trigger for the moves was the extraordinary strength of the dollar, which was pulling up the value of the riyal against other major currencies.

This encouraged imports into Saudi Arabia at a time when falling oil exports were pushing the country into a balance of payments deficit.

The Kingdom has a $290 million deficit in the first quarter of this year.

Dealers said there was widespread expectation that the riyal would be further devalued against the dollar in the next few weeks, perhaps to 3.5150 to the dollar.

They said that, while it was too early to be certain of a policy shift, the moves might indicate a return to a policy of frequent adjustments in the currency's value.

Officials of the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency in Riyadh declined to comment on exchange rate policy.

Dealers said interest rates on large Saudi riyal deposits at banks in Bahrain, the major market for riyal deposits, fell slightly after yesterday's devaluation announcement.

They said the declines would probably have been sharper had there not been expectations of further riyal devaluations in coming weeks. These expectations were encouraging investors to continue to hold dollars and to delay shifting their funds back into riyals, a factor which was reducing liquidity in the market for riyal deposits and keeping interest rates higher.

Interest rates on shortdated deposits showed the most marked move following the devaluation, but rates for deposits of longer periods slipped more modestly.

The rate on one-month deposits slipped a quarter of a percentage point to around 9-1/2 percent from 9-3/4 percent, while three-month deposits eased to around 10-1/8 percent from 10-1/4 percent.

UAE

PDRY Official Conveys Message, Leaves

GF131110 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Anis Hasan Yahya, vice chairman of the PDRY Council of Ministers, left the country for home this afternoon after making a 3-day visit to the UAE, during which he conveyed a message to His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al Nuhayyan, the president, from his Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, the PDRY leader, on bilateral relations.

AL-FARJ on 'Failure' of McFarlane's Mission

GF131238 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0650 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 13 Aug (WAM) — In its editorial today, the newspaper *Al-Fajr* asserted that U.S. envoy McFarlane's announcement of the failure of his mission was no surprise to anyone, since this mission was a continuation of U.S. policy aimed at imposing hegemony on the Arabs through the Zionist entity.

Al-Fajr said as long as McFarlane's mission lacks initiatives and objectivity as he attempts to mediate a solution to a problem between various parties with conflicting interests, he is doomed to fail as was the case with Habib and Shultz.

The newspaper asserted that the U.S. envoy did not come to the region to reach a settlement that would preserve Arabs' rights or Lebanon's sovereignty, but came to convey Israeli demands and conditions to try to forcibly impose them while the Arabs have no choice other than to resign themselves to the Zionist occupation of their land. "These demands are still rejected by the Arabs as was announced by Damascus and Riyadh and we do not think there is any other Arab reply."

In conclusion, *Al-Fajr* expressed the belief that despite the seeming failure of his mission, the U.S. envoy has probably succeeded in reaching an agreement because he came to the region not to achieve success but to attempt to freeze the status quo with the approach of the U.S. presidential elections. "The Arabs have no choice other than to wait out these elections, since the differences among Arabs will continue for years to come."

Tehran Reports on Velayati-Shaykh Zaid Meeting

LD131348 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Aug 83

["Telephone report" by Central News Unit Abu Dhabi correspondent — recorded]

[Text] Mr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, our country's foreign affairs minister, within the framework of his visit to several countries in the Middle East and Africa and of his participation in the Palestinian conference in Geneva, arrived in Abu dhabi last night. And today, before leaving the United Arab Emirates, met and conferred with Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan, the president of the Emirates.

At 0900 hours this morning Dr Velayati met and conferred with Shaykh Zayid, the UAE president. In this meeting, which lasted for about an hour and a half, Dr Honardust, the deputy oil minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran; the Iranian ambassador to Abu Dhabi; the managing-director of the African-Asian department [presumably of the Iranian Foreign Ministry] and also Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, the UAE oil minister and high-ranking officials of the UAE Foreign Ministry were present.

In this meeting, first Mr Velayati conveyed a message from Iran, To Shaykh Zayid and then some issues concerning understanding and expansion of economic-political relations between the two countries were raised. In this meeting strengthening cooperation between the two countries within the framework of Islamic unity, confronting the aliens' abuse of the region and the proper use of Muslims resources were stressed. Talks were also held and views were exchanged on cooperation and coordination between the two countries to strengthen OPEC and avoid disunity among OPEC members.

In conclusion, Mr Valayati raised the Palestinian issue and, emphasizing unity, reminded: If unity among Muslims had been maintained, the Palestinian issue and the situation in Lebanon would not be where they are now.

After the delegation's meeting with Shaykh Zayid, Dr Velayati and the delegation accompanying him left Abu Dhabi for the Democratic Republic of Yemen.

The Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Abu Dhabi.

PDRY

PLO Executive Committee Secretary Arrives 12 Aug

GF122002 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Brother Muhammad Abu az-Zuhdi, secretary of the PLO Executive Committee, arrived in Aden this evening on a several-day visit to our country, during which he will meet with a number of officials in the party and government to discuss the latest developments in the Arab and international arena.

In a statement to ANA, Brother Abu Az-Zuhdi affirmed that this visit comes within the framework of coordination and consultation between the YSP and the PLO regarding the developments in the Arab arena and in conformity with the directives of the Yemeni and Palestinian leaderships which are aimed at developing the level of coordination in the various fields for the interest of the two fraternal peoples. He pointed out that this visit is also aimed at exchanging experiences and studying the scopes of cooperation in the economic field for supporting the sons of the martyrs of the Palestinian revolution, especially after the barbaric Zionist invasion of Lebanon.

In concluding his statement, Brother Abu az-Zuhdi hailed the firm principled position of the PDRY and its unlimited support for the just and legitimate struggle of the Palestinian people.

Upon arrival at Aden International Airport he was received by Brother 'Abd al-Qadir Ba Jammal, alternate member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of industry; and 'Abbas Zaki, PLO representative in Aden.

Iran's Foreign Minister Arrives 13 August

GF131532 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Brother 'Ali Akbar Velayati, foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, arrived in Aden this evening leading a

delegation on a several-day visit to our country at the invitation of Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs.

In a statement to ANA, Velayati said that relations between the PDRY and the Islamic Republic of Iran are strong and began to improve after the victory of the Islamic revolution in Iran. He said that during the visit he and the delegation accompanying him will meet with officials in the country to discuss cooperation between the two countries and the current developments in the Arab and international arenas and will acquaint themselves with the revolutionary achievements in the PDRY.

The delegation accompanying him comprises representatives of the ministries of energy, construction, and industry in the Islamic Republic of Iran. The delegation is expected to hold talks with officials in our country on the different fields of cooperation between the two countries. The delegation was received on arrival by Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali and representatives of the diplomatic corps and liberation movements accredited to the PDRY in Aden.

Talks Begin 14 August

GF141758 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] A round of talks were held at the Petroleum and Minerals Corporation this morning between the delegation of our country headed by 'Abd al-Qadir Ba Jammal, alternate member of the YSP Central Committee, minister of industry, and chairman of the petroleum and minerals corporation, and the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran headed by Iranian Foreign Minister Brother 'Ali Akbar Velayati. The talks dealt with economic and technical cooperation relations between the two countries and the progress of these relations since the signing of the trade agreement and the memorandum of mutual cooperation in the fields of oil, minerals, and industry. The two sides positively assessed that period and discussed the scopes of subsequent cooperation in the fields of oil and minerals. They confirmed the fields of cooperation between the two countries and reviewed the possibility of establishing common projects and exchanging experiences in these fields.

The PDRY deputy minister of industry for energy and minerals affairs and the Iranian deputy energy minister continued their detailed technical talks this afternoon.

Foreign Ministers Hold Talks

GF142022 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] The first session of talks between the PDRY side, led by Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, Central Committee member and foreign minister, and the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran, led by Brother Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, the foreign minister, began at the Foreign Ministry this morning. The talks concentrated on bilateral relations and the means of strengthening them in the economic, commercial, social, and cultural fields.

The talks took place in an amicable atmosphere and both sides reviewed the situations in the region and the threats posed by the U.S. policy to the region, particularly the maneuvers being carried out by its forces in some of the region's countries and the direct threat posed by these provocative maneuvers to the security and safety of the region's peoples.

Meets PDRY Chairman

GF150900 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 15 Aug 83

[Text] The Iranian political-economic delegation led by Foreign Affairs Minister Seyyed 'Ali Akbar Velayati held its second round of meetings in Aden yesterday by meeting with PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. The talks between the two sides dealt with the amicable relations between the two countries and ways to strengthen and develop bilateral relations in the framework of cooperation among the Islamic nations.

Seyyed 'Ali Akbar Velayati also met with PDRY Foreign Affairs Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali. The two sides stressed that the latest U.S. maneuvers in the region constitute a threat to the Muslim peoples and to progressive countries. They stressed moreover that the U.S. maneuvers support reactionary governments in the region. The two countries also warned against continuation of the Camp David process and the capitulatory agreement between Lebanon and the entity that usurped Jerusalem. They emphasized the need to ensure that the countries of the region cooperate in confronting this conspiracy.

During this meeting, Velayati stressed the importance of the alliance, which is based on faith in Islam and on armed struggle against the entity that usurped Jerusalem.

The delegations of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the PDRY also discussed yesterday ways to expand cooperation to meet the mutual needs of the two countries in addition to developing bilateral economic, trade, and cultural cooperation.

Defense Minister Comments on U.S. Maneuvers

GF142010 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Col Salih Muslih Qasim, member of the YSP Central Committee and defense minister, strongly denounced the military maneuvers of the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force in the Arab region. He said these maneuvers show the colonialist aggressive nature of U.S. policy which is aimed at regaining control of the Arab world by utilizing the large war machinery of Pentagon and its strategic ally in the region as represented by the Zionist entity and by the conspicious collusion of the reactionary Arab regimes and leaders that have helped and are still helping this aggressive policy against the Arab peoples and their progressive achievements.

In an editorial in the newspaper *Ar-Rayah*, published this morning, he said: It is regrettable that these maneuvers, which have bad reputation, are being held on Arab countries' territories, on this big dismembered homeland, as a result of the U.S.-Israeli-

Arab reactionary policy. He said that the brothers — instead of exerting efforts to unite the Arab nation at this complicated period which has witnessed massacres of the Arab Palestinian and Lebanese peoples and which continuously threatens the security and stability of Syria and Libya — are permitting the RDF to hold these maneuvers to train their forces to wage aggressive battles and wars in the region, and to allow the United States to continue to interfere in the Arab countries' affairs and to conspire against the Arab national liberation movement.

He affirmed: Our brave armed forces, in such complicated circumstances, are closely following all the dimensions and goals of these aggressive maneuvers and they are ready to carry out any mission assigned to them by the YSP, in order to defend our country's sovereignty and our revolution's achievements.

Mubarak Sends Message to Sudan's Numayri
NC130738 Cairo MENA in English 0707 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Cairo, Aug 13 (MENA) — In a message to Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri yesterday, President Husni Mubarak said that what is happening in the Arab world is not the responsibility of a single Arab state or of a given group of Arab states but calls for collective action by all Arab states desiring to move to work out a basis for resolving the crises the Arab nation is experiencing.

Cairo daily *Al-Ahram* leads its front-page news with a report on President Mubarak's reply to a message the Sudanese president addressed to him and other Arab leaders.

Mubarak underscored the tragedy the Palestinian cause is going through and the possibility of the division in Fatah, the main guerrilla group in the Palestine Liberation Organisation, gripping other PLO factions and its frustration of the Palestinians living in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

He also spoke about the present situation in Lebanon brought on by the failure of foreign troops to withdraw from Lebanon and the resurgence of civil war and sectarianism in the country bringing with them the spectre of partition of the country.

He also deplored the continuing Iraq-Iran war which is draining the resources of the two countries and posing a threat to the stability the Arab nation seeks.

Urging a collective Arab move, Mubarak called for a formula to be worked out for ending the internecine fighting within the PLO and for ensuring the withdrawal of Israel from Lebanon by which it would be left no pretext for postponing it.

He also urged that the Arab states redouble their effort to end the Iraq-Iran war.

The president's message coincided with diplomatic moves aimed at probing the possibility of mobilising the Arab nation. Dr Usamah al-Baz, director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, leaves today for Amman to deliver a message from the President to King Husayn.

Economy Minister Dr Mustafa As-Sa'id left yesterday for Baghdad with a message from President Mubarak to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn.

Cairo is also making contacts with Lebanon and some Arab countries aimed at moving the Arab nation in the direction of circumscribing and resolving its present crises, *Al-Ahram* reported.

Mubarak Receives U.S. Congressional Delegation
NC131041 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] President Husni Mubarak this morning received a U.S. Congressional delegation led by Senator Robert Kasten. The meeting was attended by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali.

Ghali Returns Following African Tour 12 August
NC121948 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali returned here tonight from Geneva following an African tour which took him to the Congo and the Central African Republic and during which he handed messages from President Husni Mubarak to both countries' presidents.

During his tour, Ghali visited Togo, Chad, France and Switzerland as well.

Ghali stated that, during his visits to Togo and Chad, he discussed the Libyan aggression against Chad and affirmed Egypt's concern over the developments in the situation in Chad and its denunciation of the Libyan aggression against it.

The state minister added that he asked the Egyptian delegation to the UN to take part in the meetings of the Security Council and also to clarify Egypt's stance on Libyan aggression against Chad. He added that the officials of the countries which he visited have condemned the Libyan aggression as well as any aggression that would jeopardize world peace and security.

Dr Butrus Ghali added that he had talks with the French Government officials on the developments in the situation in the Middle East and that he followed up the meetings of the anti-apartheid conference which is due to end its meetings today in Geneva.

Ghali will submit a report on the results of his tour and talks in the countries which he visited to President Husni Mubarak.

Ghali Discusses African Tour
NC131325 Cairo MENA in English 1225 GMT 13 Aug

[Text] Cairo, Aug 13 (MENA) — State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr. Butrus Ghali said today he reported to President Husni Mubarak on his recent tour of Chad, Central Africa, Congo and Togo.

Dr. Ghali underlined that the meeting aimed at evaluating the situation in Chad particularly the Libyan invasion. Egypt's stance is quite clear as regards the situation in Chad namely condemnation of the Libyan intervention either on the African arena, namely within the framework of the Organization of African Unity, or on the United Nations level particularly as the Security Council is currenly in session to discuss the Libyan intervention in Chad.

The Egyptian diplomacy would expound to the world public opinion the dangers of the Libyan intervention in Chad which would create instability in Africa and threaten the Organization of African Unity.

The Libyan intervention would open the door before the superpowers' intervention in the current crisis or to transfer the cold war to Africa, Dr. Ghali said.

He stressed the need to bring about a peaceful settlement in Chad as to be able to handle the genuine African problems namely the problem of development.

Ghali on Relations With Soviet Union
NC150624 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 15 Aug 83

[Text] Egypt, which has been following a course of dialogue and cooperation with Washington since the era of the late President Anwar as-Sadat, appears to be seeking under the era of President Husni Mubarak to restore some bridges which had linked it with the Soviet capital under the era of President Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir.

Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali said that his country intends to restore diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union at the ambassadorial level but that it will preserve special relations with the United States. He said that Egypt's maintanence of a nonaligned policy requires the establishment of good relations with both Washington and Moscow.

In an interview published in the English language magazine *Cairo Today, Ghali said: We believe that the international* situation as a whole is suitable for a rapprochement between Egypt and the Soveie Union. Moreover, such a rapprochement will consolidate Egypt's position in the Nonaligned Movement and will contribute to strengthening Egypt's nonaligned stance regarding itnernational questions.

It is recalled that Egyptian-Soviet relations deteriorated in July 1972 when the late President Anwar as-Sadat expelled 15,000 Soviet experts from Egypt. In September 1981 As-Sadat expelled the Soviet ambassador from Cairo and diplomatic relations between the two countries remained at the charge d'affaires level.

Al-Baz Hands Mubarak Message to Jordan's Husayn
NC132041 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 13 Agu 83

[Text] King Husayn of Jordan has received a message from President Husni Mubarak on the developments in the Arab area and means of tackling them. Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and head of the President's Office for Political Affairs, delivered the message at a meeting with King Husayn today.

Dr al-Baz arrived in Amman earlier today within the framework of a new Egyptian move. It should be recalled that Egypt today began a new diplomatic move to face the deterioration of events in the Middle East, events which threaten the Arab nation with grave dangers as a result of the developments in the Palestinian arena, Lebanon, and Chad, as well as of the continuation of the Iran-Iraq war and the Israeli practices in the West Bank and the Gaza sector.

Al-Baz Returns
NC141031 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text]The first under secretary at the Foreign Ministry Dr Usamah Al-Baz today returned to Cairo after he handed a message from President Husni Mubarak to King Husayn of Jordan. The message pertains to developments in the Mideast situation and Egypt's viewpoint regarding endeavors for creating an Arab stance on the requirements of the current phase.

Economy Minister Leaves for Baghdad 12 August
NC121[illegible] Cairo MENA in Arabic 1607 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Cairo, 12 Aug (MENA) — Economy and Foreign Trade Minister Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id left Cairo for Baghdad this evening for a 3-day visit to Iraq during which he and his accompanying delegation will hold discussions on bolstering relations between Egypt and Iraq.

Dr as-Sa'id will convey a message from President Husni Mubarak to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. The Egyptian economy minister's discussions with the Iraqi officials will also deal with the final arrangements for reopening the Egyptian trade center in Baghdad and the Iraqi trade center in Cairo as well as with the possibility of cooperation in the banking sector between the Ar-Rafidayn Bank and the Egyptian banks.

Daily Notes Progress of Economic Talks With Iraq
NC150638 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0615 GMT 15 Aug 83

[Text] Cairo, 15 Aug (MENA) — The Cairo newspaper *Al-Ahram* today reports that the talks Mustafa as-Sa'id, minister of economy and foreign trade, who is currently visiting Baghdad, held with Iraqi officials have resulted in an agreement on basic principles, including the reopening of the Ar-Rafidayn bank in Cairo on 25 August and the resumption of the technical talks on the lists of agricultural and industrial commodities proposed for exchange between the two countries with the aim of increasing bilateral trade exchange.

Al-Ahram says that both sides have reached understanding on pending financial and monetary problems to facilitate and promote bilateral trade exchange. They reached a bilateral agreement on exchanging customs exemptions on Egyptian and Iraqi products. The paper points to the progress in the bank talks, saying this resulted in an agreement to establish a joint Arab bank in Cairo in which the Ar-Rafidayn bank and the Alexandria Bank will participate. The bank will open branches in Cairo and Baghdad to help facilitate sending the remittances of the savings of Egyptians working in Iraq.

Senegalese Youth Minister Arrives in Cairo
NC121630 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1612 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Cairo, 12 Aug (MENA) — Francois Bob, the Senegalese youth minister and envoy of Senegalese President Abdou Diouf arrived in Cairo this evening.

The Senegalese envoy said on arrival that he carries a message from the Senegalese president to President Husni Mubarak.

Mubarak Receives Senegal's Bob

NC131015 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1001 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Cairo, 13 Aug (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak this morning received visiting Senegalese Youth Minister Francois Bob. The meeting was attended by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali and the Senegalese ambassador to Cairo.

Following the 1-hour meeting, the Senegalese minister said that he handed a message from Senegalese President Abdou Diouf to President Mubarak within the framework of the contacts and consultations being conducted between Egypt and Senegal.

He added that President Mubarak entrusted him with carrying his full approval of the contents of the Senegalese president's message.

Senegal's Francois Bob Departs

NC140734 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0732 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Cairo, 14 -7& (MENA) — Senegalese Youth Minister Francois Bob left here this morning on his way to Paris following a 2-day visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt.

During his visit, the Senegalese minister handed a message from Senegalese President Abdou Diouf to President Husni Mubarak.

Sudan's 'Uthman Ends Visit 12 August

NC130611 Cairo MENA in English 2248 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Cairo, Aug 12 (MENA) — Abu Bakr 'Uthman, Sudanese deputy premier and secretary general of the Higher Integration Council left here tonight for Khartoum at the end of his twenty-day visit to Egypt.

While here, the Sudanese official attended meetings of the technical committees of the Higher Council of Integration that opened here on July 27 and ran through August 3, the Sudanese official said prior to his departure.

Reportage on Continued Fighting, 11-12 Aug

Communique No 1,184

JN121626 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Communique No. 1,184 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 12 August 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The glorious armies of Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah are continuing their triumphant operations at the front against the forces of the suspect Khomeyni regime. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. Yesterday, an enemy patrol tried to approach the forward positions of one of our units in the Haj 'Umran area in the northern sector of the front. A force of our units confronted and clashed with it, inflicting a number of casualties on the enemy. Our forces captured a number of enemy soldiers. The rest of the enemy patrol fled the battlefield.

2. Our daring army helicopters today attacked enemy positions and troop concentrations at Haj 'Umran in the northern sector of the front scoring effective, direct hits and inflicting heavy losses on enemy concentrations, equipment, and weapons. All our helicopters returned safely to their bases, thanks be to God.

3. One was killed, several wounded, and one infantry position and two stockpiles of hardware were destroyed in the central sector of the front.

4. One was killed and three infantry positions destroyed in the area east of Basra.

5. The artillery of the criminal Khomeyniite clique last night and today shelled the city of Khanaqin and its suburbs, and the township of Qurahtu, destroying a school and damaging a number of residential buildings in Qurahtu.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 12 August 1983

Communique No 1,186

JN141640 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1610 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Communique No. 1,186 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 14 August 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our valiant Armed Forces, which have the great honor of defending the soil of great Iraq and its generous people against the unjust Khomeyniite onslaught, will continue, with God's help, to be capable of destroying any new Khomeyniite adventure, regardless of its magnitude and wherever it takes place. Disappointment and curses will always be the fate of charlatan Khomeyni and his rancorous clique. The results of the activities yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. An enemy force at dawn today attacked one of our forward units east of Zurbatiyah in the central sector of the battlefield. Our valiant units confronted the enemy force and battled it with all types of weapons. A fierce battle took place during which our units succeeded in foiling and destroying the enemy attack. Our units inflicted on the enemy force many killed and wounded, and destroyed quantities of its weapons, equipment, and military hardware.

2. The eagles of our helicopters continued today their successful and effective raids on enemy positions and troop concentrations in the northern and central sectors of the battlefield, scoring direct hits and inflicting heavy losses on the enemy's personnel and military hardware. All our helicopters returned safely to base, praise be to God.

3. One was killed, and two infantry positions and one observation post were destroyed east of Basra.

4. Three four-barreled (ruba'iyat as-sabatanah] machineguns and one stockpile of hardware were destroyed in the northern sector of the battlefield. Several Iranian soldiers escaping the regime of tyranny and terrorism in Iran sought refuge with one of our forward units in the same sector and were safely evacuated to the rear lines.

5. The criminal Khomeyniite clique today shelled Qurahtu and its suburbs, damaging several civilian insttallations.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 14 August 1983.

Army's Ramadan Praises People's High Morale

JN121715 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Comrade Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and commander in chief of the popular army, has praised the progress in the formations of the popular army in the Al-Muthanna Governorate. Speaking to fighters at a popular army training camp in the Al-Muthanna Governorate, Ramadan said that this progress — which is part of the comprehensive development of the popular army in the country — is a result of the efforts exerted by the party organizations and those concerned with the popular army in the governorate and the people's response and contribution to this experiment.

Ramadan also said that our people's continued determination to participate in our sacred battle against the forces of the rancorous Iranian regime after almost 3 years of war imposed by this decaying regime on our struggling country is new proof of the high morale of our people and their ability to face all eventualities. He expressed confidence that our people, who have valiantly defended the gains of their triumphant revolution, have proven to the enemies and the traitors of the Arab nations that no matter how wide and great their plots may become, these plots will only increase our people's determination to confront and challenge them.

Our people, Ramadan added, will always work to continue development and progress. Each citizen will carry out his own

tasks in order to defeat the rancorous enemies who do not want our people and country to progress.

Egyptian Trade Minister, Delegation Visit

JN122008 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1955 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Aug (INA) — Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id, Egyptian economy and foreign trade minister, arrived here tonight leading a delegation on a 3-day official visit to Iraq. Dr As-Sa'id said he would deliver a message to President Saddam Husayn from President Husni Mubarak. He also said that he will hold talks during the visit with Iraqi officials on promoting cooperation in the field of trade and banking between Iraq and Egypt.

Meeting With Finance Minister

JN131256 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1240 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Aug (INA) — Iraqi Finance Minister Thamir Razzuqi met here today with Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id, Egyptian economy and foreign trade minister, and his accompanying delegation. The two sides discussed bilateral relations in the financial and banking spheres and ways of promoting them. They also discussed the reopening of the branch of the Iraqi Ar-Rafidayn Bank in Cairo,to occur before the end of this month.

Meeting With Trade Minister

JN131432 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1400 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Aug (INA) — Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister, today met with Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id, Egyptian economy and foreign trade minister, and his delegation. The Iraqi minister indicated the significance of this visit on the future development of Iraqi-Egyptian relations in particular, and Arab relations in general.

Dr as-Sa'id expressed his pleasure at visiting Iraq, affirming Egypt's support for Iraq in its just defensive war against the Iranian aggression. He also expressed the two fraternal countries' desire to promote their economic, trade, and technical cooperation. The two sides also exchanged viewpoints on the exchange of commodities, and the future of their economic and trade relations in light of their common and pan-Arab interests.

Meeting With Saddam Husayn

NC141149 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1040 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 14 Aug (MENA) — Minister of Economy Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id today handed a message from President Husni Mubarak to President Saddam Husayn during his meeting with the Iraqi leader.

Following the 1-hour meeting, Dr As-Sa'id declared that the Iraqi president had expressed his heartfelt gratitude for the good meanings implied in the message as well as his appreciation for the efforts being exerted by President Mubarak in order to affirm the fairness of the Iraqi stance and the Iraqi people's struggle against the Iranian aggression, which is considered an aggression against the Arab nation. As-Sa'id added that President Husayn expressed his interest in opening the various channels of bilateral relations, a matter which reflects the strategy of the Iraqi leadership. As-Sa'id added that the Iraqi president feels that the presence of some obstacles in a limited area does not contradict progress in other domains.

The Egyptian minister added that the Iraqi leadership insistson creating all the opportunities for cooperation with the Arab states. During the meeting, the Iraqi president asserted that the bases of Arab solidarity are stronger than Arab differences. He said that Arab leaders should take advantage of their past experience and use the maturity they have gained through those experiences in order to put Arab action on the right track vis-a-vis the anti-Arab forces which keep trying to abort any Arab prosperity or progress, as was the case with Egypt in various phases of its history and as is the case now with Iraq.

As-Sa'id said the Iraqi president indicated that we should foil our enemies' designs, adding that he pointed out to the Iraqi president that consolidating Arab relations during this historical phase is a basic step in order to frustrate anti-Arab designs. As-Sa'id noted the awareness of both countries' leaders of the Arab realities and of the foreign forces which have an effect on these realities. He pointed out that due to the history and patriotism of the Egyptian and Iraqi leaderships, they are held responsible for moving the Arab nation toward the phase of victory.

As-Sa'id mentioned that during his meeting with President Husayn they discussed bilateral relations in the economic and financial spheres. He added that he expressed his gratitude for the hospitality and fraternal atmosphere which was accorded to him and to his accompanying delegation in Baghdad by the Iraqi ministers and officials with whom he had talks — an atmosphere which led to opening channels of cooperation between the two countries in order that their bilateral relations would become stronger than ever.

This morning, As-Sa'id met with Iraqi Minister of Light Industries Tariq Hamad al-'Abdallah. During the meeting, they discussed the establishment of joint projects, and he extended an invitation to the Iraqi minister to visit Egypt. It is noteworthy that yesterday As-Sa'id met with a number of Iraqi officials and that a banquet was given in his honor by Revolution Council Command member Hasan 'Ali.

Received by Ramadan

JN141743 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, this afternoon received Mustafa As-Sa'id, Egyptian minister of economy and foreign trade, and the accompanying delegation.

Ramadan welcomed the fraternal delegation and said that this visit is a positive step in promoting cooperation between the two fraternal countries in all spheres. He expressed Iraq's desire to find a joint formula for promoting bilateral cooperation. Ramadan also reviewed the development of the Iraqi economy which

is represented by the various projects in the important future strategic fields that would contribute to the support and development of the Iraqi national economy.

Ramadan stressed the importance of promoting economic relations between Iraq and Egypt. He also stressed their great role and positive contributions to the development of the current Arab stand, which is due to the two fraternal countries' influence in the Arab arena and their service to the Arab nation.

Mustafa as-Sa'id expressed his pleasure with visiting Iraq and meeting with President Saddam Husayn. He stressed that President Saddam Husayn possesses a great and deep understanding of political events. He said that the president is concerned about serving the Arab nation and its lofty objectives. As-Sa'id expressed confidence that the results of his visit would be an positive factor in promoting cooperation between the two fraternal countries in accordance with the Arab nation's objectives. He reiterated Egypt's readiness to help Iraq in its just and defensive war against the Iranian aggression. He also stressed the unlimited cooperation between Iraq and Egypt in all spheres.

Egyptian Minister Interviewed

JN150802 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0710 GMT 15 Aug 83

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Aug (INA) — The Egyptian minister of economy and foreign trade has said that Iraq neither hesitates nor spares any effort to sacrifice blood and money for the sake of protecting the eastern Arab front against the racist, barbaric Persian onslaught.

In a press statement published here today, the Egyptian official said that his current visit to Iraq comes at an important historic turning point not only for the firmly established relations between Egypt and Iraq, but also for the Arab homeland.

This visit, he added, confirms the resumption of the good and cordial relations between Iraq and Egypt. He described the rapprochment taking place between Iraq and Egypt as a ray of hope at a time when the Arab homeland is being fragmented, and when the hostile forces are swooping down on it.

The Egyptian official noted that agreement has been reached on the various commodities which can be commercially exchanged between the two countries. Under this agreement, Iraq's exports to Egypt will increase and vice versa. The two sides also agreed to open trade centers in the two countries and to participate in the international fairs set up by the two countries.

He added that the two sides agreed to the issues which have been suspended between the two countries since 1976, and a timetable was drawn up to implement what has been agreed upon, and that work on the opening of the two countries' trade centers will commence immediately after his visit to Iraq.

King Husayn Receives Message From Husni Mubarak
JN131830 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received in An-Nadwah Palace this afternoon Dr Usamah al-Baz, the Egyptian president's adviser for political affairs, who conveyed to his majesty a message from His Excellency President Husni Mubarak. The message pertains to the current developments in the Arab and international arenas, to dimensions concerning the Palestine question, and to what is taking place in the occupied Arab territories, as well as the Israeli occupation authorities' practices in Arab Jerusalem, Hebron, and all over the occupied Arab territories.

The message also deals with the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the need to act to remove the foreign troops from Lebanon in order to preserve Lebanon's unity and sovereignty. President Mubarak's message also deals with the current differences within the PLO and their negative impact on the Palestine question.

Junblatt Meets King Husayn, Goes to Saudi Arabia
JN121732 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party, accompanied by a number of Lebanese Druze personages, including former Minister Marwan Hamadah, today met with Jordan's King Husayn in Amman. Junblatt briefed the king on the latest Lebanese developments.

Junblatt left Amman today for Saudi Arabia.

AD-DUSTUR on Liberian-Israeli Diplomatic Relations
JN150904 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 15 Aug 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Harvest of Arab Impotence," *Ad-Dustur says:* *The decision of an African country such as* Liberia to restore diplomatic relations with Israel calls for deep regret and sadness. In fact this decision does not surprise us, we the Arabs. Nevertheless, while we watch what is taking place in Africa and elsewhere and see the return of Israeli infiltration into the African Continent, which shares us our struggle against colonialism and backwardness, we cannot isolate the cause from the result and blame the Africans without blaming ourselves.

Ad-Dustur adds: The stage which the situation has reached not only in Africa but in the heart of this Arab homeland, which abounds with conflicts and divisions, is the real reason for Arab defeatism in confronting Israel on a number of fronts and in different types of battles. As inter-Arab differences and the split in Arab ranks have led to all the Israeli successes in previous direct confrontations, the deteriorating Arab situation which has become a characteristic feature of the Arab nation greatly contributes to serving our enemies with regard to the African Continent.

Ad-Dustur adds: While we recall all the promises made by the Arab League countries to the African countries at the first Afro-Arab summit in Cairo in 1976 concerning rendering financial and technical assitance to these countries and establishing extensive Arab-African relations, we blame the Arabs not only for their failure to fulfil their promises, but also for transferring their internal differences to Africa and the OAU, and their retreat from tackling the issues related to their joint alliance with the African peoples. Can anyone isolate what is currently taking place in Africa from the Camp David policies and their consequences in Egypt? Can we ignore the Arab disputes inside the OAU over purely Arab problems? And, can we ignore some Arab parties' adventures currently taking place in the African Continent?

Ad-Dustur concludes: While we watch Liberia following Zaire's steps in restoring relations with the enemy, and expect with deep sorrow and sadness other African countries to follow the same trend, we believe that all blame falls on the Arabs themselves. Those who plant division and discord will only harvest defeat and retreat, and those who never give matters proper consideration will only be destined to humiliation and defeatism.

Salim, McFarlane Meet To Draft Agenda
NC141049 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim met for 2 hours at his residence today with U.S. envoy Ambassador Robert McFarlane, accompanied by Ambassadors Robert Dillon and Richard Fairbanks. They discussed the various projected issues, particularly the reopening of Beirut Airport, the withdrawals, and the negotiations with Syria. The conferees, during the meeting, drafted the agenda for the official session of talks between the Lebanese and U.S. working teams scheduled to be held at the Presidential Palace at 1700 today.

McFarlane Emphasizes U.S. Support
NC141935 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] U.S. presidential envoy Robert McFarlane has emphasized the United States' support for President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil's stand, which calls for ensuring the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon as soon as possible, for accelerating the process of establishing Lebanese sovereignty, and for achieving reconciliation among the Lebanese people.

This came after the U.S. presidential envoy's meeting with the Lebanese side at B'abda Palace this evening. The Lebanese side was headed by Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim. Dr Wadi' Haddad, presidential adviser on national affairs, and Ambassador Zafir al-Hasan attended the meeting. In addition to McFarlane, the U.S. side included Ambassador Richard Fairbanks, Ambassador in Beirut Robert Dillon, and Mr Howard Teicher.

Al-Wazzan on Resumption of Air Traffic, Security
NC131833 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan today chaired an expanded security meeting attended by Army Commander General Ibrahim Tannus; Zahi al-Bustani, director general of general security; Brigadier General 'Uthman 'Uthman, acting director general of the Internal Security Forces; Brigadier General 'Umar Makhzuni, Beirut Police commander; and Colonel Simon Qassis, Army Intelligence director. After the 2 and 1/2 hour meeting, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said:

[Begin recording] The meeting was one of the periodic meetings we hold to acquaint ourselves with the security situation and to deal with some issues that arise and for which a solution must be found. Furthermore, you know that there is also a security situation in all the Lebanese areas. We considered and tackled some security issues in these areas. I also focused on the issue of the evacuees and on the measures required to prevent their eviction from their houses before their case is solved in a concrete manner. There are some judicial orders that the government cannot interfere with. However, from the security and humanitarian aspect, I have issued a memorandum to the director general of the Internal Security Forces instructing all the security forces that are asked to assist in implementing these judicial orders not to act except after receiving the approval of the central administration. This is also in order to ensure security coordination.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Prime Minister, is there anything new regarding the airport?

[Al-Wazzan] There will be nothing new before the complete safety of aviation is ensured. [end recording]

Syrian Officers, Experts Deployed in Al-Mukhtarah
NC130655 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Security sources have stated that Druze officers and military experts from the Syrian Army, namely from the Syrian Army battalion in Upper Al-Matn, have been positioned in Al-Mukhtarah palace. They set up an operations room run, in addition to Syrian personnel, by Popular Army Commander Lieutenant Colonel Sharif Fayyad, and Tawfiq Barakat, Anwar al-Fatayiri and Hisham Nasir ad-Din. These officers supervise the shelling of the airport and defenseless villages.

It has been learned that the Progressive Socialist Party is planning to seize a position on the Kafr Matta axis. The position, which is overlooking 'Bayh and Ba'wartah, is manned by 20 Syrian soldiers.

Lebanese Forces Commander Afram Warns Syria
NC141809 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Lebanese Forces Commander Fadi Afram has warned the Syrians of the consequences of continuing with their plan to overthrow the regime and to paralyze the basic components on which Lebanon depends. He emphasized that the arm of the resistance is long and that it can strike at the Syrian bases wherever they may be. He said that the Lebanese Forces will not let the Syrians and their tools in the country rest and that the Lebanese people will not permit the Syrians to (?implement) their new plots.

In an interview he gave to the CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY, the Lebanese Forces commander said the Lebanese, Arab, and international public are well aware that the basic problem Lebanon is facing in resolving its crisis is that of restoring sovereignty over all its territory.

He said: After having obtained a commitment for complete withdrawal according to an agreement that was unanimously approved by the Lebanese, Syria should have responded with a decision to withdraw, but the Syrians hastened to reject both the agreement and withdrawal.

This rejection is to consecrate the Syrian presence which, in the view of the Lebanese, is occupation. The Lebanese Forces have been considering this presence as occupation for years.

RFL: Syrians Ask Junblatt To Cause Flareups

NC121258 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Radio Free Lebanon has learned from private sources that a timetable was conveyed to Walid Junblatt by Syrian intelligence at a meeting held in Shtawrah the day before yesterday calling for shifting the flareups from one area to another.

As for Beirut, the sources add that the operations headquarters of the Socialist Party in Ar-Ramlah al-Bayda', near the former Iraqi Embassy building, has been reinforced with a Socialist-Communist commando unit, in coordination with Nabih Birri [the Amal Movement leader], to carry out acts of sabotage with a view to embarrassing the government and depicting the Army as incapable of enforcing security in Greater Beirut.

The same sources say the aims of the Syrian regime in this timetable are to first organize a guerrilla warfare against the Israelis to make them stay wherever they are so that Syria can stay wherever it is present, and second, to prompt the regime to replace the Al-Wazzan government with one headed by Rashid Karami, who will return the Army to its barracks and work to partition it just as he did in 1976.

AS-SAFIR Interviews Junblatt on Airport Crisis

NC131208 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1130 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party, [PSP] in an interview with the newspaper *As-Safir* published today, affirmed that the PSP forces will neither allow the reopening of the airport in the foreseeable future, nor will they allow the Army to enter the mountain and Ash-Shuf areas before an agreement is reached. Junblatt said that the 10 demands, which were conveyed by the three ministers to President Amin al-Jumayyil represent the minimum acceptable to begin any dialogue with the Presidential Palace.

On the situation in the mountain, Junblatt said he will not accept the state of siege imposed on the Druze, adding that others will be responsible for the consequences in Lebanon. Junblatt said that all channels of contacts with the authorities have been blocked, pointing out that he will never relinquish his alliance with Syria, and that he is endeavoring to beef up his alliance with the leader of the Amal Movement.

Junblatt explained that the discussion of any issue related to the national accord must enjoy the approval of the National Salvation Front sides, particularly [former] President Sulayman Franjiyah and [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami.

Junblatt Statement Surprises Observers

NC131231 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Political and economic circles today expressed surprise at Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt's statement to the newspaper *As-Safir* in which he declared that his party will not permit Beirut Airport to reopen in the foreseeable future. Junblatt also repeated his demand that the Army be withdrawn from the mountain area. He said that his party forces will keep the airport closed. He added that they have nothing more to lose and that all which is forbidden is being done in Lebanon.

Junblatt declared his party's responsibility for the detention of the three ministers. He then criticized those in Lebanon whom he labeled as allies of Saudi Arabia. He said they are receiving large amounts of money, indicating that the stands of these people involve dangers.

PSP Spokesman on Airport

JN140624 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] In Amman yesterday, an official spokesman for the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party again appealed for the immediate reopening of the Beirut International Airport and the resumption of all its civilian activities. The spokesman denied reports that Walid Junblatt opposes the reopening of the airport.

Junblatt Reportedly Returns to Hammana 14 August

NC141817 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] It was reported tonight that Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt returned to Hammana and the Upper Al-Matn this evening and met with the leaders under him. It was also reported that Junblatt has sent a person with a message for the Druze community leader. The contents of the message were not revealed.

Monte Carlo on Junblatt's Advice to U.S. Marines

JN142114 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2030 GMT 14 Aug 83

[From the "Panorama" Program]

[Text] In an interview on the ABC Television Network, Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt gave some advice to the Americans in that the U.S. Marines must keep away from the Lebanese Army's positions at Beirut Airport which is being exposed to shelling by the Socialist forces.

Concerning the general situation, Junblatt said that a compromise solution must be reached, otherwise the civil war will continue for an unlimited period of time.

AFP: Negotiations on Beirut Airport Continue

NC151137 Paris AFP in English 1040 GMT 15 Aug 83

[Text] Beirut, Aug 15 (AFP) — Beirut International Airport was closed today for the sixth consecutive day, as negotiations continued toward obtaining an agreement for its reopening.

The question dominated talks yesterday between the U.S. special

envoy to the Middle East, Robert McFarlane and Foreign Minister Elie Salim.

A number of contacts within and outside the Lebanese Government have taken place in recent days over the airport. It has been closed since five persons were killed in the area in shelling Wednesday, allegedly by the Druze Moslems fighting Christians in the Ash-Shuf mountains.

According to official sources, the Lebanese Government is demanding certain guarantees before air traffic resumes. It says the airport is civilian property and not a legitimate military target or battleground.

The officials added that foreign airlines will not resume their flights to Beirut without such undertakings.

The former prime minister, Sa'ib Salam, and the president of the Shi'ite movement "Amal," Nabih Birri, have obtained a pledge from the Druze leadership of Walid Junblatt's Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] not to shell the airport if it is used exclusively for civilian aircraft, close associates said.

The PSP today accused the Lebanese Government of keeping the airport shut to turn public opinion against the Druze.

Israeli Convoy Ambushed in An-Nabatiyah

NC140920 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] An Israeli convoy was ambushed on the An-Nabatiyah road at 0930 today. Two Israeli personnel were wounded, according to the initial information. Immediately afterward, the Israeli army erected roadblocks and mounted a combing operation in search of the perpetrators.

Further on Convoy Ambush

NC141147 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1130 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] The Lebanese National Resistance today carried out a new operation against the Israeli occupation forces. At 0930, an Israeli military convoy was ambushed by the Lebanese National Resistance men on the An-Nabatiyah road.

According to initial information the ambush resulted in the killing or wounding of nine Israeli personnel. Reports from the south said that Israeli helicopters and ambulances rushed to the scene of the incident; a sign showing the size of the operation.

The reports added that the occupation forces were gripped with panic and cut all roads leading to the scene. Other troops combed the area in search of the perpetrators.

VOL Reports on Security Situation 14 August

NC141749 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] From 1720 and 1745, about seven shells fell on the Army positions in Dqun. Meanwhile, clashes with medium and light weapons have been taking place since 1900 between the western quarter in 'Alayh and 'Ayn ar-Rummanah, near Suq al-Gharb. At approximately 1530 today, the Socialist gunmen began an intermittent but direct shelling of Suq al-Gharb from 'Alayh. The shelling intensified between 1530 and 1600 and then gradually eased. At the same time, sniper fire was directed on Suq al-Gharb from 'Aytat.

In Tripoli, the situation continued to be calm in the wake of two attacks on the Lebanese Army. One of the attacks was committed by the group of Ahmad al-Khatib [commander of the Arab Army of Lebanon], which detained an Army soldier in al-Arz Street in al-Qubbah and later released him following contacts. The second attack occurred at the military beach in Tripoli, where Fatah gunmen opened fire at Lebanese Army soldiers, who managed to arrest the attackers. It transpired that the attackers were drunk. In the meantime, Israeli warplanes broke the sound barrier over the capital of the north while on a reconnaissance sortie.

The situation is still tense in the Al-Biqa' because of the intermittent clashes between 'Arafat's loyalists and dissidents and because of the state of alert existing on the Israeli-Syrian lines.

Cease-Fire in Mountain; French Soldier Killed

NC142011 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] A security source has reported that an agreement was reached for a cease-fire in the mountain as of 2100. The source added that the agreement is being honored, except for a limited violation that occurred between Kafr Shima and Ash-Shuwayfat, and that the quarters concerned are making efforts to halt this violation.

Meanwhile, the security source stated that a soldier of the French contingent operating within the multinational force was killed this evening when a hand grenade he was dismantling exploded in Qasqas forest.

VOL Says Shelling Continues

NC142034 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] The cease-fire agreement declared at 2100 has not been fully honored by the Socialist-Syrian side. Intermittent shelling can still be heard in the same axes. The sources of the shelling are 'Alyh, the Upper Al-Matn, and some other Socialist positions

which have indiscriminately shelled Humal, Wadi Shahrur, Suq al-Gharb, Bhamdun, and Dayr al-Qamar. A shell fell on [words indistinct] and another shell in the vicinity of Nahr Beirut. No casualties have been reported.

Guarded Calm in Mountain

NC150512 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0415 GMT 15 Aug 83

[Text] Guarded calm has been prevailing in the various mountain areas since midnight yesterday. The parties concerned are abiding by the second cease-fire decision, which was announced at 2300 last night. However, this decision has not prevented the socialists and their associates from firing some shells, which stopped falling a short while before midnight.

Israeli Roadblock Set Up in Beirut 15 August

NC151245 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 15 Aug 83

[Text] Security sources have indicated that Internal Security Forces and Lebanese Army personnel contained a shooting incident on Bishara al-Khuri Street at about 1015 today, and that the situation is normal again. An Internal Security Forces patrol was removing a peddler near the Finance Ministry's offices when gunmen fired on it. An Army force in the area immediately intervened and settled the situation. The gunmen then withdrew.

This morning the Israeli forces set up a roadblock, supported by tanks and armored vehicles, on the Galerie Sim'an Road [in Beirut] and searched passing vehicles.

The security sources did not confirm a report that a shell fell in the Mar Mikha'il Church-St Therese-Ash-Shiyah area at 1024 today.

About the situation in the mountain, reports received by the Internal Security Forces indicate that the security situation is witnessing a guarded calm following last night's clashes. Shells reportedly fell near the U.S. ambassador's residence in Al-Yarzi, where U.S. envoy McFarlane is staying.

It was reported that the Beirut-Damascus International Highway is cut at Dahr al-Wahsh Ruwaysat Sawfar, and that the Ash-Shuf and 'Alayh roads are very dangerous.

Meanwhile, the Israeli forces in the Al-Khiyam area are establishing installations and leveling the ground in the Al-Khiyam airfield area near the Lebanese-Israeli border to build an airfield. Reports from the area indicate that Israeli trailers carrying prefabricated houses were seen today moving toward the airfield area. Israeli bulldozers are digging fortified bunkers and gun emplacements in the airfield area. The Israeli forces are vacating their camp near the Ad-Damur Bridge, where they are dismantling the installations and prefabricated houses.

Al-BA'TH Assails Lebanese Regime's Policy
JN141100 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 14 Aug 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Last Opportunity," *Al-Ba'th* says: After failing to find a solution to the Lebanese problem in Washington, and after finding itself in a blind alley following the visit to the White House and Robert McFarlane's visit to the region, the Lebanese regime chose to head for the mountain area to begin finding the solution there.

Thus, it encouraged the Phalangist militias to carry out their provocations against the nationalists and peaceful citizens. Then it escalated its practices to the point of causing security eruptions, which would have inflamed the Lebanese arena with the fires of sedition were it not for the consciousness and alertness of the nationalist forces which extinguished the fires of this blind grudge and protected the homeland from its enemies.

The Lebanese regime was not alone in this dangerous course, which cannot be isolated in any way from the general Lebanese situation. The partners of the agreement of submission played a main role in activating this scheme to the extent that the new envoy of the U.S. President devoted his precious time to the so-called the problem of the mountain. In his concern, the L anese president asked terrorist Begin to delay the redeployment of the invasion forces until things calmed down. What is the problem, and what are the matters which must become calm? Is it the legitimate nationalist resistance to the Zionist occupation forces which the regime wants to suppress out of concern for the security of the invaders? It is in fact so. It seems that the regime still adheres to the wager on the agreement of submission and, consequently, to the U.S. plan in part and parcel. With this wager, the regime has become captive to orders from the White House and the leaders of the Zionist military establishment, whose instructions call for adopting a hostile stance toward any voice that calls for the salvation of Lebanon from the Zionist invasion.

We should not, therefore, be surprised by the hostile campaign against the nationalist forces and Syria; the campaign of instigation which has been accompanied by crimes and attempts to involve the mountain and other Lebanese areas in a battle which will waste Arab Lebanese blood and lead the homeland to an inevitable catastrophe.

The nationalist forces, represented by the Salvation Front, have, on several occasions given the regime time to reconsider its practices if it is indeed concerned about a Lebanan which is united in territory and people and liberated from the desecration of the Zionist invaders. These forces have also tried to overcome tribulations, beginning with the massacres which accompanied the signing of the agreement of submission and ending with the massacres of Tripoli and Ba'labakk.

The nationalist forces nursed their wounds, warned and gave the others time to reconsider their positions because the interest of the homeland is above all considerations, but it seemed that the regime insisted on following the wrong objectives, unless it realizes now that it is the last opportunity.

Al-Ba'th concludes: The regime is now faced with legitimate demands conveyed by the released ministers. These demands constitute the minimum aspirations of the majority of the Lebanese people. Will it study and respond positively to them so as to reach the right objectives or will it remain the captive of its own wagers?

Damascus on Rise of Lebanese Nationalists Influence
JN141400 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] Now that it has become clear to all Lebanese that the solution to the Lebanese problem will not come from Washington or Tel Aviv, and now that it has become certain that the cause of the Lebanese problem is the Israeli occupation and U.S. ambitions to dominate Lebanon, everyone in Lebanon, including the Lebanese Government itself, realizes that Washington's solution is a delusion and that placing all Lebanon eggs in the American basket was an erroneous venture, as wasputting Lebanon's destiny and unity at stake on the Israeli-U.S. table. Despite the clarity of this fact right from the beginning and despite the Lebanese Government's involvement in this gamble and risk, that government still thinks that Washington can do something and that Tel Aviv can be of some benefit. In other words, despite the fact that Washington does not want to do anything other than reap the fruits of the Israeli invasion and dominate Lebanon, and despite the fact that Tel Aviv does not want to do anything other than sever southern Lebanon and turn it into an occupied northern bank and divide Lebanon into several tiny states, the involved Government in Lebanon is still wagering on the two common enemies of Lebanon - - people, state, and homeland.

It now seems that the Lebanese Government is not wagering on these two enemies from the Lebanese angle only, but also from the Arab angle, thinking that Washington could do something. Yet, Washington does not want to do more than what it has done and does not wish Lebanon anything more than what it has already wished it; namely, invasion, occupation, and hegemony.

Now that those close to the Lebanese Government are talking about the pessimistic atmosphere and the failure of McFarlane's mission, which is going around in a vicious circle , the other reality, which is a bright reality, becomes prominent. This reality is that the Lebanese people, who have not wagered on Washington, have not accepted occupation, and have not cooperated with the enemy, are the only ones capable of finding the way to solve the Lebanese problem, save Lebanon, and preserve its Arabism and the unity of its land and people.

The Lebanese Government has signed the agreement of submission and portrayed its as the great relief for Lebanon. Yet this agreement deprives Lebanon of everything and gives it nothing. During its visit to Washington, the leadership of the Lebanese Government was again given the good tidings that the relief

would be forthcoming. But the Lebanese people, who know that Washington's objectives are identical with those of Tel Aviv, wre not deceived by the clamor which the government made in the media and then went back on. The Lebanese people stood firm against their enemies — the Israeli invaders and U.S. imperialists — strongly believing that the solution in Lebanon will be decided by the Lebanese people through national accord and on the basis of expelling the invaders, resisting U.S. hegemony, and repudiating factional domination, which is considered the pillar of the Israelis and Americans.

When nationalist Lebanon today takes the initiative in determining the ways and means for national salvation, it refutes all the claims of submission and of falling on the laps of Washington and Tel Aviv and raises the flag of unified Arab Lebanon. This is the wish of the great majority of the Lebanese people. It is the wish to get rid of the Israeli invaders, U.S. hegemony, and factional domination. It is in fact the wish to build future Lebanon on the basis of national accord and Arab identity.

The Lebanese Government's experiment in this short period has proved that making concessions to the invaders benefits the enemy and gives Lebanon nothing but coercion and humiliation, and that dependence on and submission to Washington gives nothing to Lebanon, but deprives that Arab country of its free will and indepedent national decisionmaking and also makes it a weak captive. The experiment of the isolationist Lebanese Government has also proved that disavowing Arabism deprives Lebanon of its own national identity and makes it a foreign body without identity and objective. This would make it an easy prey for the Israelis, who would give it their own character just as they gave their character to their collaborators — the Phalangist Party, its ilk.

At the time when all this is proven, nationalist Lebanon comes up and takes the initiative and shows the right path — the path of the people and Arabism, and of national unity and political accord. It is essentially the path of the Lebanese people's liberation from the odious Israeli occupation and hateful U.S. hegemony. What nationalist Lebanon is raising today is the correct national alternative to all suspect and condemned solutions which have been proven invalid and a failure on the Lebanese arena. Only what is correct shall prevail.

Begin on Syrian Role in Lebanon, Settlements

TA151024 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 15 Aug 83 p 2

[Report by Ora 'Arif]

[Excerpt] "The Lebanon war was our greatest war and was unavoidable. The whole world now knows who demonstrates a negative, hostile attitude toward the peace agreement in Lebanon, seeing that the Syrian president has declared that he would never recognize the Lebanese-Israeli accord and that the Syrian forces will never withdraw from Lebanon," Prime Minister Menahem Begin said last night at an Israel Bonds meeting held in the Knesset building.

Menahem Begin also told the participants of the meeting that we have taken the step of redeploying our forces in Lebanon in an attempt to minimize the danger to the IDF soldiers. The purpose of the war was to defend the lives of the Israeli citizens in the northern part of the country who were targets for shells by the PLO forces who used equipment and arms they received from the Soviet Union, Syria, and Libya.

The prime minister emphasized that Israel would like to implement the agreement it had signed with Lebanon regarding the withdrawal of all foreign forces from that country "because we are not interested in one inch of Lebanese territory." He added: It is clear even now to the administration in Washington which element is preventing the attainment of a peaceful solution in Lebanon. Israel has no need to prove its adherence to peace after a war that has cost us so many casualties. Now the others will have to fulfill the conditions in the agreement which Israel had pledged to carry out. If we are again asked to defend our citizens in the north, we will not hesitate for even one moment to carry out our duty.

As for Jordan, the prime minister said: We have invited Husayn to join the negotiations because we are interested in a peace agreement with all our neighbors, and we have constantly been demonstrating this desire, ever since our independence was declared 35 years ago.

The prime minister also told the participants of the conference: We have the full right to continue to stay and live in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip, but we do not want to oppress anyone there. If any inhabitant of the territories has suffered any injustice, we not only regret that, but if the culprits are found they will be tried and will be sentenced with all severity according to the law, which deals equally with everyone.

The prime minister added: Nearly 5 years have elapsed since the renewed settlement impetus in Judaea and Samaria has begun. We have never agreed to have a Palestinian state established in these areas. We offered an interim period of full autonomy in all the areas, except for security matters. We negotiated in good faith in order to obtain an agreement, but it was violated not by us. What we suggested in the autonomy negotiations was according to the Camp David accords, which are binding not only on Israel but also on Egypt, which signed it, and the United States, which was a signatory to it.

IDF Again Enters Galerie Sim'an in Beirut

TA151222 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 15 Aug 83

[Text] The Christian radio stations report that IDF armor is again stationed in the heart of Beirut. According to the reports the IDF rushed Merkava tanks and armored troops carriers to the area of Galerie Sim'an and IDF soldiers are combing the area.

Lebanese Army's Defense Abilities Questioned

TA140928 Tel Aviv 'Al Hamishmar in Hebrew 14 Aug 83 pp 1, 2

[Report by Alex Fishman]

[Text] In view of the reports that the U.S. envoy to the area, Robert McFarlane, has brought Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil closer to the positions of the Druze sect in Lebanon, knowledgeable sources in Israel have reported that even if the president of Lebanon comes to some sort of an agreement with the Druze, under the current internal Lebanese circumstances this would be an arbitrary agreement which would not last longer than a week or two.

Sources in Israel have commented that the latest clashes between the Druze and the Lebanese Army have clearly proven that the emerging Lebanese Army has no operational value. The Lebanese Army and administration were shamed in the clashes and this proved just how shaky Amin al-Jumayyil's rule is. The events of the past few days reinforce Israel's claims in its contacts with the United States that the Lebanese Army is not ready to take upon itself the tasks of safeguarding the administration. The Americans are adhering to the position that this army — in which they are sinking large amounts of money — is capable of performing the tasks assigned it by the president.

While the IDF is preparing to evacuate the Ash-Shuf area within a short period of time, the attempts made by the IDF to reach a dialogue with the Lebanese Army concerning its taking over positions in the Ash-Shuf area have come to nothing. The Lebanese Army is not showing any willingness or ability to implement an orderly overlap between the two forces and reach coordination about the transfer of installations, minefields, and so on.

As for the last few days' incidents, knowledgeable sources in Israel have pointed out that the terrorists staying in the regions north of the Beirut-Damascus highway in the Druze forests toward Bhamdun, Juniyah, and Beirut participated in them. The terrorists, who are using 130-mm cannons, coordinate their fire with the Druze who shoot from these areas and, as far as can be seen, they are doing so with the Syrians' approval.

In the opinion of elements in Israel, it is true that there is a possibility that the Syrians will enter the Ash-Shuf area after the IDF evacuation. However, this is most unlikely. The elements commented that it should not be assumed that if the Syrians entered the Ash-Shuf area, it would be in large military frameworks, but through introducing intelligence elements.

Sources in Israel estimate that the incidents deliberately initiated by the Druze in the Ash-Shuf area will only move up the date of the IDF departure from that area.

Kimche Involved in Lebanese Mediation Efforts
TA150742 Tel Aviv Davar in Hebrew 15 Aug 83 p 1

[Report by the Arab affairs correspondent]

[Text] Arab sources reported yesterday that Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche spent the weekend in Beirut, where he conducted negotiations with Christian leaders and possibly also with representatives of the central government. These sources noted that this was an attempt to make the Christians and the Beirut administration work out an arrangement with the Druze in the Ash-Shuf to prevent a serious military clash in that area between the Druze, the Christians, and the Lebanese Army in view of the Israeli withdrawal to the Al-'Awwali River line.

According to this report, Kimche's mission in Beirut was confidential and forms part of Israel's attempts to help reach a dialogue between the Druze and President al-Jumayyil and the Phalangists, in order to prepare the ground for the Lebanese Army's deployment in the Ash-Shuf region after the IDF evacuates.

Cabinet Fails To Reach Decision on Budget
TA151217 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 15 Aug 83

[Text] This morning the Cabinet was unable to reach a decision regarding the cuts in the defense budget, and the sharp disagreements on this topic still stand. Our correspondent Gadi Sukenik reports that the defense minister did announce his agreement to cut 8.5 billion shekels from the current defense budget but refused to make any promises about the extent of the cuts for next year.

After the end of the meeting, the prime minister ordered the defense minister and the finance minister to continue the negotiations between them right away in order to reach an agreement today. The Cabinet might discuss this in another meeting today. The discussion of the other economic steps might be postponed to next week. So at this moment there is a limited discussion taking place between the defense minister, the finance minister, the chief of staff, and their close aides on the cuts in the defense budget. During this morning's Cabinet session, the finance minister announced his intention to resign. However the other ministers pleaded with him not to do so and he complied.

Liberia To Resume Diplomatic Relations
TA131818 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Liberia has announced it is resuming diplomatic relations with Israel. Liberian Foreign Affairs Minister (Ernest) Eastman said in Monrovia that the Liberian Government has decided to do this since it is convinced that Israel's isolation does not serve peace. Liberia is the second African country recently to renew its diplomatic relations with Israel.

Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports in Jerusalem that there have been many contacts between Israel and Liberia lately. The Liberian defense minister visited Israel 2 weeks ago.

Shamir Welcomes Liberian Decision
TA131940 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Liberian Foreign Affairs Minister (Ernest) Eastman said on Monrovia radio this evening that the relations will be renewed at the level of ambassadors, since his country is convinced that the continued isolation of Israel constitutes an obstacle to peace in the Middle East. The Liberian minister added that after Israel completed the withdrawal from the Sinai, there was no more reason for the severance of relations with it. However, the Liberian minister emphasized that Israel should evacuate the occupied territories, and that the Palestinian people's rights for a national state should be recognized.

Liberia is the second country — after Zaire — to resume relations with Israel, after the decision by the African countries to sever relations with Israel following the Yom Kippur war.

Our political correspondent Yoram Ronen reports that three senior Liberian officials — including the Liberian national defense minister — recently visited Jerusalem and met with the prime minister and foreign minister. Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir this evening expressed a great deal of satisfaction with Liberia's decision, saying he hopes that many African countries will follow suit.

Foreign Minister Shamir Departs for Romania
TA150626 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 15 Aug 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir left Ben-Gurion Airport this morning on his way to Romania. There he will meet with President Nicolae Ceausescu and other officials during his 4-day official visit, and he also plans to see the heads of the Romanian Jewish community. This is what Shamir had to say this morning at Ben Gurion Airport:

[Begin recording] [Shamir] Well, as it is known that we always have normal and friendly relations with Romania — it is the only country of the Soviet bloc which maintained normal relations with us.I was invited by my colleage, Foreign Minister Andrei, to visit Romania, and I do it with great pleasure.

[Question by unidentified correspondent] Mr Shamir, do you think that your discussions with President Ceausescu will in any way help to break the deadlock over the Lebanon crisis, especially the withdrawal of Syrian and Israeli forces from this country?

[Shamir] I cannot give details about the talks I will have with

President Ceausescu now, but I hope I will have the opportunity to discuss with him all the problems related to our relations with Syria and Lebanon. [end recording]

IDF Accused of Giving Military Aid To Chad

TA140817 Tel Aviv Ha'aretz in Hebrew 14 Aug 83 pp 1,2

["Exclusive" report from London by Yosi Melman]

[Excerpt] Israeli military personnel are now in Chad, helping the government forces led by President Hissein Habre. This was claimed at the end of the week by rebels in Chad, who are being helped by the Libyan Army, in reports that have reached London.

According to these reports, Israeli military personnel are with units of the Zairian Army which reached the capital of Chad, Ndjamena. The Israelis are acting as instructors for the Zairian Army and, together with the units they are training, they were flown in U.S. transport planes from Zaire to Chad. The same reports also claimed that several weeks ago the president of Zaire, General Mobuto, suggested that the president of Chad should ask for military aid from Israel, but Habre refused.

The *Ha'aretz* correspondent points out that reports and rumors that military advisers from Israel reached Chad to help the government forces have also been disseminated in the past in western Europe, but President Habre then denied these reports.

Trade Deficit Rises 18 Percent in 1983

TA141716 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Israel's trade deficit has grown by 18 percent during the first 7 months of this year, compared with the same period last year. This was learned from data of the Central Bureau of Statistics released this evening.

The deficit has risen due to a decline of 3.5 percent in exports, as opposed to a 5 percent rise in imports. During July alone, the trade deficit rose by about 20 percent as opposed to last July. The data indicate that imports of vehicles from January to July increased by 42 percent compared with last year, and that imports of consumer goods in general increased by about 25 percent. At the same time, imports of investment goods [nikhsey hashqa'a] increased by more than 33 percent.

African Leaders To Meet on Chad in Brazzaville
AB131410 Paris AFP in French 1128 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Brazzaville, 13 Aug (AFP) — Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam, the Ethiopian head of state and current OAU chairman, and his counterparts from the central African subregion will try 13-15 August in Brazzaville to find an "African" solution to the Chadian conflict, and thus put a stop to the "internationalization of the conflict," it was learned from reliable sources in the Congolese capital.

Mr Mengistu, who arrived before his counterparts on Friday afternoon in Brazzaville, immediately began talks with Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso to examine ways of adopting new proposals for peace in Chad this weekend.

President Mengistu and heads of state or governments of the central African subregion (Cameroon, Gabon, Zaire, CAR, Angola, Burundi, Rwanda, Equatorial Guinea and Sao Tome and Principe) and Christian Nucci, the French minister of cooperation, are officially invited to Brazzaville to attend the festivities marking the 20th anniversary of the Congolese revolution. But the African presidents have decided to take advantage of their presence in the Congolese capital to organize a minisummit on Chad outside their official schedule. It is not yet known in Brazzaville whether Chad will be present at this minisummit. Reliable sources indicate that only "a Chadian delegation" is seen on some invitation cards.

The prospects of a debate on Chad at the 20th anniversary of the Congolese revolution among central African heads of state became clear only a few days ago following the aggravation of the situation in Chad. In fact, leaders of these countries, most of which are neighbors to Chad, can no longer tolerate the fact that a solution to the Chadian crisis should be found outside Africa, it was emphasized in Brazzaville. Colonel Denis Sassou-Nguesso deplored in a speech on 8 August that central Africa, "an economic giant," should appear in the eyes of the internal opinion as "a political dwarf." In that speech the Congolese president expressed his "readiness" to contribute toward the restoration of peace in Chad.

President Omar Bongo of Gabon made an urgent appeal to his counterparts of the region to undertake "collective action" to help Chad and stressed that diplomacy should take precedence over "cannon fire." Observers, however, emphasize that several heads of state in the central African region hold quite different opinions about Libya's intervention. A group of "moderate" countries, including Zaire and Gabon, openly supports the pro-Western Hissein Habre regime in Ndjamena fighting against a rebellion supported by Libya.

Another group of "progressive" countries, led by the Congo, holds positions which are full of nuances, and even diametrically opposed. Not long ago, Congolese Foreign Minister Pierre Nze stated that Libya was reacting in Chad "within the framework of its anti-imperialism struggle."

"Much as we do not agree with Libya's occupying anybody's territory, we think that if a Libyan support serves to fight any imperialist strategy, then it serves our purpose," the minister added.

in Brazzaville will be "very difficult" according to observers. The question now is whether Africa will be able to overcome its deep differences of opinion on the Chadian crisis, and whether it will be able to present to the world the image of a continent capable of settling its own affairs without the intervention of the big powers, observers stress.

Chadian Delegation Not Expected
AB141255 Paris AFP in English 1250 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Brazzaville, Aug. 14 (AFP) — Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam, current chairman of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), was expected to hold informal talks with other African leaders here today on events in Chad. Ten leaders of central African states are officially gathering in Brazzaville for a celebration of the 20th anniversary of Congo's revolution, and talks on Chad would thus be on the sidelines.

Most heads of state are expected to arrive today and will be consulted in turn by Lieutenant-Colonel Mengistu before meeting in small groups and then possibly a full session this evening, a reliable source said. No Chadian delegation is officially expected, however, according to an authoritative source.

A reliable source said that Libya's ambassador to the United Nations, 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, has arrived in Brazzaville and was to have talks this afternoon on the Chadian conflict with African heads of state present. His arrival in Congo was not announced.

A total of 54 delegations are expected in the Congolese capital to attend the anniversary celebrations, which get under way tomorrow. France is represented by Cooperation Minister Christian Nucci who arrived last night. 9endall) 141250 PETTY/RKB 14/1310z aug

Libyan Envoy's Remarks Reported
AB150900 Paris AFP in English 0846 GMT 15 Aug 83

[Text] Brazzaville, Aug 15 (AFP) — There is no military solution to the conflict in Chad since no one faction can win, so the protagonists must negotiate a political settlement, a senior Libyan diplomat said here Sunday night. "Libya does not recognize governments but states", said its United Nations Ambassador 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki.

All the same, he went on to say it was Libya's view that the Transitional Government of National Union (GUNT) set up in 1979 under since ousted President Goukouni Oueddei was the "only possessor of legitimacy" in Chad. It had been officially recognized by the Organization of African Unity (OAU), he noted. The conflict was "an African problem. It must remain so, and can be handled only under the aegis of the OAU."

He said periodical "consultations" between Libya and France had "never come to a halt" despite the Chadian conflict, though there was no question of discussing that problem "without the knowledge of the Chadians".

The Libyan envoy said, "We are ready to listen to France's point of view on Chad if that can contribute to reaching a peaceful solution, and if France can help the OAU, we shall appreciate that". France's military in Chad fell within the framework of cooperation agreements, and Libya had no intention of coming into collision with it, Mr at-Turayki said.

If the present Ndjamena regime of Hissein Habre refused to enter into talks, it would be taking the risk of perpetuating the war, he warned.

Mr at-Turayki said he was pursuing contacts with the African heads of state or government who are here for the 20th anniversary of Congo's revolution. There was also a possibility of talks with France's representative at the celebrations, Cooperation Minister Christian Nucci.

Mr Nucci for his part held talks yesterday with Congolese host President Denis Sassou-Nguesso and Gabon's President Omar Bongo, while current OAU Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, the Ethiopian leader, held informal "consultations" with the presidential guests.

Mr Bongo told journalists a "mini-summit" on Chad had not yet been arranged. He suggested that before one took place, a restricted group of the countries involved should work out an agenda "so that we know beforehand what we are going tonegotiate about". He proposed Congo, Zaire, Cameroon and Central African Republic.

Colonel Nguesso hosted an "intimate dinner" for his guests at his official residence last night, and observers expected them to [words indistinct] course of action to take in the coming 24 hours.

Mengistu on Chad Interference

LD131838 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1000 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Comrade Chairman Mengistu has said that the interference of non-African countries in the internal affairs of Chad has aggravated and complicated the situation in that country.

Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and COPWE, and commander in chief of the revolutionary armed forces, said this on arrival in Brazzaville yesterday evening to attend the 20th anniversary of the revolution of the People's Republic of Congo.

Our revolutionary leader, who is the current chairman of the OAU, called on the parties fighting a civil war in Chad to stop the war and to hold negotiations. During his stay in Brazzaville he will hold discussions on Chad with the leaders of the 11 African countries attending the anniversary celebrations of the Congolese Revolution.

Also yesterday, Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam and President Denis Sassou-Nguesso held discussions on African issues.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi's U.S. Television Interview

LD132148 Tripoli JANA in English 1955 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Tripoli, Dhulqada 5, August 13, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Millions of viewers in America yesterday followed the interview given by the leader to American television stations ABC, NBC, CBS and CNN which was transmitted live via satellite.

During the interview, the leader of the revolution answered questions on the current situation in Chad and direct French, American, Zairean interventions in the internal conflict in that country as well as U.S. provocations against Libya launched from its northern and southern borders.

In his answer to a question by ABC concerning allegations of Libyan intervention in Chad, the leader said that the Jamahiriyah did not intervene at all in Chad and remains neutral vis-a-vis the civil war there. In this respect the leader expressed regret at the involvement of parties such as America, France and Zaire in this war. The leader of the revolution also refuted allegations claiming that French and U.S. spying equipment showed Libyan military activities in the region and said that Jamahiriyah has no aerial or land military activities there because its borders with Chad have been closed for a long time. He said no one has any proof of our intervention in the war there and stressed that Jamahiriyah has suggested to the O.A.U. the formation of a fact-finding committee to be sent to Faya-Largeau and other parts of Chad so as to make sure that we did not make any military moves in Chad.

In his answer to a question whether Jamahiriyah supports Goukouni Oueddei's forces to help them overthrow Habre, the leader said that the Jamahiriyah had in the past backed Goukouni, the legitimate president of Chad, and that it has stopped this backing a long time ago. He said "Goukouni does not need our help because he is strong enough and has his people on his side. He also possesses enough weapons from the past and does not need any help from Libya or any other country. I believe that he will win this civil war and will not need any other help because he represents the majority in Chad while Habre represents a minority. Moreover, Goukouni was the president of Chad and Habre was his defence minister. Habre is the rebel."

In his answer to a question concerning the critical situation in Chad the leader said "We want peace in Chad which will be achieved through national reconciliation between the warring factions and want this war to end as soon as possible. America, Zaire and France are trying to escalate this civil war. So instead of giving this people food they supply it with arms to fuel the civil war on a wider scale. We regret such mad actions perpetrated by a superpower such as America. [quote marks as received]

Concerning rumours being circulated in the west of alleged Libyan attempt to spread its influence in Chad the leader said, "We are not looking for influence in any part of the world. This is part of the policy of imperialists who are trying to dominate and spread their influence over other parts of the world." The leader also expressed regret concerning Reagan's statements in which he said that Chad does not fall under the U.S. zones of influence but is part of France's zone of influence. He said "this is the language of imperialism and old-fashioned colonialism. Chad belongs to the Chadians, Africa to the Africans as much as Libya belongs to the Libyans. It is strange to hear the president of a superpower say such things about Chad. This means that the world is divided among imperialist countries and that no one is free. It means that Chad is not free and that what is taking place there is an imperialist issue concerning imperialist countries such as America and France. We are totally opposed to this. Chad is not part of the zones of influence of any other country but belongs to the Chadians."

In his answer to a question regarding possible confrontation between Libyan forces on the one hand and American and French forces on the other the leader said "this will not happen because we have no intention whatsoever to intervene in Chad. Moreover, we have no forces deployed along Chadian borders. We are still within our own borders and do not fear any confrontation between us and any other party. We consider that what is taking place in Chad is a civil war and a struggle for power between Goukouni and Habre. We are joining our efforts to those of the Organisation of African Unity to find a peaceful solution to the problem and see that there is no need to use military force to solve this problem."

In his answer to a question by ABC station about Arab leaders' stands vis-a-vis Libyan complaints about U.S. provocations against it, the leader said that he receives daily cables and telephone calls from Arab leaders which speak of their support to the Jamahiriyah against U.S. aggression from Chad and from the Mediterranean.

Concerning Mobutu, Numayri and Egypt's stands, the leader explained that these are a minority in Africa and are agents of America. The majority however supports Libya. We have made public the support we received from African leaders and countries. Numayri and Mobutu are mere puppets, he added.

In his answer to a question related to the presence of U.S. aircraft carrier "Eisenhower" across Libyan territorial waters and Libya's warning that it will attack the carrier if this penetrates Libyan territorial waters the leader said: "We hope that this will not happen. We are trying to avoid confrontation with America or others but we are ready to defend our lands. We say that the Gulf of Sidra is part of Libya's territorial waters and declare our readiness to fight for the sake of this gulf because the issue is related to the security of our territory and our country. We will not allow any war target to penetrate this gulf whether this target is U.S. aircraft carrier "Eisenhower" or any other warship belonging to any other country."

In his answer to a question related to the presence of U.S. spying aircraft and their effect on Libya, the leader said, "If this aircraft is deployed against Libya and affects it, we will try to destroy it because it is a matter of self-defence."

In his answer to a question concerning Jamahiriyah relations with its neighbours the leader said we are busy constructing the Arab Maghreb which will unite Libya, Tunisia, Algeria,

Morocco and Mauritania as a first step towards realising Arab unity. We are also aspiring towards establishing good relations with our African neighbours and would like peace and stability in Chad. We see that America and other imperialist countries must leave Africa because they are trying to undermine the stability of this part of the world.

Regarding Jamahiriyah relations with the Soviet Union, the leader said "We would like to be the friends of American and any other country in the world and would like to bolster our relations with the Soviet Union especially in the light of this aggressive atmosphere against us created by America."

Concerning (?what) was circulated about peaceful initiatives with France to end fighting in Chad the leader answered CBS television station's question by saying "relations between Libya and France are good and there are continued contacts between the two countries. We hope that France helps to achieve something in Ndjamena because no one can realise peace while preserving Ndjamena for himself and excluding his other comrades from power. In order to realise peace in Chad Habre should leave Ndjamena or Ndjamena should be ruled with the help of other parties. French forces tried to do something last week but failed. The number of French forces in Ndjamena increased and it was believed that these would achieve something."

In his answer to a question related to the existence of reports which say that America and France could hold joint manoeuvres in the region using AWACS and French forces the leader said, "We are ready to defend our country. We are not worried because of these manoeuvres there or anywhere else. like the rest of the world we have condemned these manoeuvres in this region because they are a threat to world peace and security in this region. In any case we are not frightened and are ready to defend our coutnry."

Al-Qadhdhafi Meets With Conference Members
LD131045 Tripoli JANA in English 0920 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Tripoli, Dhulqada 5, August 13, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the revolution met with the members of the preparatory conference of the sixth gathering of the revolutionary committees which ended its meetings last night at the people's hall in Tripoli.

During their meeting the leader stressed the necessity and importance of building the revolutionary committees movement at home and abroad and said that the mission of the sixth gathering must concentrate on means to create a revolutionary movement at home and abroad as this is the most important slogan which should be raised during this meeting.

He stressed the necessity for establishing a revolutionary movement at home and abroad which believes in the revolutionary dicta and which would disseminate these abroad, stressing that Libya would have been nothing without a revolutionary movement and that it will make all the achievements realised available to the Libyans and to the Arab nation.

The leader went on to say that Libya's historic value lies in its establishment of revolutionary committees at home and abroad in order to herald the era of the masses and the rise of the people's authority and then reviewed the historic movements which swept the world. He said that these movements ended when those which led them died and have become meaningless because they were concentrated on the leaders who failed to leave behind a movement that would symbolise them.

He confirmed that the building of the revolutionary committees movement at home and abroad, the belief in this movement and its defence is the only guarantee to eternalise the dicta which were discussed in the third universal theory. The rise of the masses in Libya must be the foundation stone for changing the world towards the jamahiri society. Then only, a new generation which will liquidate all forms of traditional rules and leadership and jamahiri societies will be established through creating an international revolutionary movement which will agitate for people's authority in the jamahiri society.

Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud yesterday morning also attended the final session of the preparatory conference. It is worth mentioning that the sixth gathering of the revolutionary committees is due to begin its meetings in the next coming days.

JANA: Goukouni Sends Letter to OAU Chairman
LD142206 Tripoli JANA in English 2112 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Bardai, Dhulqada 6, August 14, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Goukouni Oueddei the president of the legitimate Government of National Unity in Chad sent a letter to President Mengistu Haile Mariam the current chairman of the Organisation of African Unity concerning the development of the situation in Chad in the light of foreign military interventions on the part of America, France and some African reactionary countries. The letter read as follows:

The manoeuvres by U.S. and French imperialism and their agent Zaire gives once more conclusive evidence of their intervention in Chadian's problems which forces me this time as well to address to you this letter to inform you about the latest developments and deterioration of the situation here and to attract your attention to the direction this problem has taken in the past few days, characterised by Zaire, France and America's dispatching of sophisticated equipment and arms.

On the other hand the legitimate Government of National Unity refutes all allegations concerning alleged Libyan forces' intervention on our side and once more calls on the Organisation of African Unity to send a fact-finding committee to find out the truth or falseness of these allegations.

Because of the expansion of the problem in my country the legitimate Government and National Unity would like to draw the attention of the chairman of the Organisation of African Unity to the danger of the problem arising from the direct intervention of France, Zaire and America in the current war especially knowing that the OAU bureau, while studying the situation in Chad has seriously given due importance to the destiny of the Chadian people who are victims of a long bloody struggle which lasted twenty years and which has become more

dangerous as a result of imperialist intervention. The Government of National Unity which lauds the efforts of the OAU will not give up any effort towards achieving peace in Chad because it is deeply concerned with the legitimate aspirations of the Chadian people for peace and security and has left the door open for all initiatives capable of realising peace and security in Chad. The legitimate government which has total confidence in the OAU is once more showing its readiness to establish peace for which your organisation has called and loudly confirms its readiness to cooperate with it to realise a just peaceful and permanent solution for the Chadian internal problem. It will continue to mobilise all its capabilities to [word indistinct] peace, unity and security in Chad as well as in the entire region.

Because of developments in recent events the legitimate Government of National Unity reaffirms its belief that the Chadian people who have been fighting for years a heroic struggle against colonialism and imperialism will inevitably achieve victory despite all obstacles and will remain firmly confident to find a just and permanent solution in Chad with the help of the OAU. Therefore, the legitimate government is insistently calling on the OAU to urge France, America and Zaire who have recruited their soldiers on the side of Ndjamena's rebel Habre to withdraw immediately their forces and stop their military backing in order to give a chance for discussions of a just and permament peace in Chad.

The legitimate government insists, on the other hand, that the OAU chairman calls on the Zairean Government to respect OAU resolutions considering that Zaire is a member of this organisation.

JANA: Radio Bardai Lists 'Rebel' Habre's Losses
LD131652 Tripoli JANA in English 1428 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Bardai, Dhulqada 5, August 13, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Radio Bardai belonging to the legitimate Government of National Unity led by Goukouni Oueddei today broadcast a statement on the losses inflicted upon rebel Habre's forces during the battles that led to the fall of Faya Largeau in the hands of the Chadian legitimate government.

The statement said that rebel Habre's forces losses were:

- 500 dead
- a large number of missing soldiers
- hundred taken prisoner
- five M L French-made armoured vehicles
- twelve Md106 artillery pieces
- 40 transport vehicles destroyed
- 20 transport vehicles loaded with ammunition captured
- U.S.-made comm[illegible]cation equipment.

JANA: UN Delegate Responds to Chad 'Fabrications'
LD141105 Tripoli JANA in English 0909 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] New York, Dhulqada 6, August 14, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Jamahiriyah delegation said in a speech to answer Habre's representative's fabrications against Jamahiriyah during the second session of the U.N. Security Council held Friday night, that if Hissein Habre was popular and legitimate in Chad, why does he guard Ndjamena with the help of thousands of foreign troops from America, France, Zaire and European mercenaries while other eastern parts of the country which are under his control are guarded by mercenaries and forces from Sudan which have been transported into Chad with the help of America.

The delegation said that the situation in Chad is only an excuse for the return of colonialist countries to Africa to exercise their hegemony and that the tragedy in Chad is a result of direct French colonialism which oppressed the people of Chad and France's continued interventions in this country.

The Jamahiriyah delegation said how it is possible that the despatching of 680 French paratroopers to Chad is only meant for training when all sources (?pointed) that Habre's forces are no more than 3,000 soldiers deployed outside Ndjamena... The despatch of these forces cannot be within the framework of a cooperation agreement between France and Chad but is to be considered as a blatant military intervention in the civil war taking place there otherwise why is it that not the [as received] French forces did not intervene for the benefit of the national legitimate government led by Goukouni when Habre rebelled against him. The delegation pointed out that reports confirm that French forces were sent to Chad to lead the Zairean forces which will head to northern Chad to confront the forces of the legitimate Government of National Unity [words indistinct] of his forces and has only a group of mercenaries left. Jamahiriyah's stand vis-a-vis the situation in Chad, the delegation said, is still neutral regarding the civil war. The Jamahiriyah still supports national reconciliation on the basis of Lagos agreements which were endorsed by the O.A.U. and calls for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Chad and an end to arms supplies to rebel Habre.

JANA: Al-'Ubaydi Meets GUNT's Foreign Secretary
LD141840 Tripoli JANA in English 1735 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Tripoli, Dhulqada 6, August 14, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The secretary of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison Mr 'Abd al-'Ali al-'Ubaydi met this afternoon with Mr Teleiro Caid Najar the state secretary for foreign affairs in the legitimate Chadian Government of National Unity [GUNT] and discussed the current situation in Chad and bilateral relations between the two countries.

Envoy Meets With Congolese Foreign Minister
LD141925 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Brazzaville, 14 Aug (JANA) — Dr 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, the Jamahiriyah's representative at the United Nations, met this morning in the Congolese capital, Brazzaville, with

Pierre Nze, the foreign minister of the People's Republic of the Congo.

They discussed and reviewed bilateral relations and the current situation in Chad in light of foreign intervention by American imperialism in Chad's internal affairs.

JANA: Congolese President Supports Libya on Chad
LD141145 Tripoli JANA in English 0921 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Tripoli, Dhulqada 6, August 14, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the revolution received a letter from President Dennis Sassou-Nguesso of the People's Republic of Congo in which he hailed the efforts exerted by the Great Al Fateh Revolution towards realising peace in Chad and building national unity in this country.

President Dennis Sassou-Nguesso also expressed admiration for the principled stands of the Jamahriyah vis-a-vis the Chadian people aimed at realising Chad's national unity and restoring legitimacy in the country.

He stressed that at a time when imperialism led by America and France is escalating tension in Chad and fuelling war there, most of the countries of the world and Africa are exerting efforts and standing by the realisation of national reconciliation among all the warring factions in this country, pointing out that Chadians are insistently calling for this reconciliation and for the restoration of legitimacy in their country.

JANA: UN Envoy Meets With Ethiopian President
LD142112 Tripoli JANA in English 2004 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Brazzaville, Dhulqada 6, August 14, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Ethiopia's President Mengistu Haile Mariam who is also the current chairman of the O.A.U. met Sunday with Dr 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki the secretary of the Jamahiriyah delegation at the U.N. who is currently taking part in the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Congolese popular revolution.

During their meeting they discussed the current situation in Africa and the repeated U.S. aggressive threats and provocations against the Libyan Arab people from its northern and southern borders.

President Mengistu affirmed to Jamahiriyah U.N. delegation secretary his country's support for the Libyan Arab people in their brave confrontation of the provocations carried out by U.S. imperialism against Jamahiriyah. He also condemned the disgraceful foreign intervention in the struggle over power in Chad.

JANA: Junblatt Cables Praise to Al-Qadhdhafi
LD141843 Tripoli JANA in English 1740 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Tripoli, Dhulqada 6, August 14, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the revolution received a cable from Walid Junblatt the leader of the Lebanese Socialist Progressive Party in which he expressed his admiration for the brave stands of principle adopted by the Jamahiriyah in confronting imperialist challenges aimed at subjugating the Arabs and involving them in the course of U.S. policies.

Junblatt also lauded the steadfastness of the Libyan Arab people in the face of American threats, stressing his confidence in the Libyan people's ability to confront these challenges and to reaffirm their freedom over their lands and their nationalist role.

JANA: Fatah Delegation Arrives for Visit
LD142028 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1930 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Tripoli 14 Aug (JANA) — Brother Abu Salih [Nimr Salih], member of the command committee of the revolutionary movement within Fatah, and the accompanying delegation arrived this evening in Tripoli on a visit to the Jamahiriyah.

Brother Abu Salih, in a statement to JANA, affirmed that the Arab nation will triumph and American imperialism and its schemes in the region will be defeated.

Abu Salih condemned in his statement the terrorist provocation practised by the Reagan administration against the Jamahiriyah. Those provocations, he said, are a portrait of the pains felt by America as a result of the firm stances of the Arab Libyan people against its imperialist designs in the Arab region and particularly after foiling Reagan's plan.

Jabir Receives Delegation 14 August
LD142038 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1935 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Tripoli, 14 August (JANA) — The Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir this evening received a delegation of the new revolutionary movement in Fatah under the leadership of Brother Abu Salih [Nimr Salih], member of the Command Committee of the movement. Delegation members include Brother Samih Quway Qadri, member of the Command Committee of the revolutionary movement; Colonel Abu Majdi, member of the Revolutionary Council; Lieutenant Colonel Abu Jabr, member of the Military Council; Brother Mahmud al-Labadi, the official in charge of external information of the movement; Brother 'Abdallah Hasan, deputy secretary general of the Union of Palestinian Teachers; and Brother Sakhr Darwish, official of the grouping in south Lebanon.

JANA: Chad Envoy in Algiers Refuses To Return
LD142031 Tripoli JANA in English 1928 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Algiers, Dhulqada 6, August 14, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Chadian ambassador to Algeria today rejected a decision from the so-called government of rebel Habre to return to Ndjamena and stressed that he does not recognise the legitimacy of this government.

The Chadian ambassador said in a statement which was handed to reporters today that his case is that of the majority of the

Chadian people who respect Lagos agreements which only recognise the legitimate Government of National Unity led by Goukouni Oueddei as these agreements are the only source of legitimacy and only way to establish peace in Chad.

He said that rebel Habre's forces are but one faction from 11 others who signed these agreements. Therefore Habre's faction cannot represent the authority of the Chadian state or express it.

He also deplored France's intervention in the internal conflict in Chad and said France should have done better than send cannons, thus aligning with a minority when it already declared that it will respect every detail of any OAU decision. The Chadian ambassador also refuted accusations voiced by rebel Habre against Algeria.

MOROCCO

Official, Soviet Envoy Discuss Relations

LD131642 Rabat MAP in English 1207 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Rabat, Aug 13 (MAP) — The twenty-five year old establishment of Moroccan-Soviet relations was at the center of the talk Mr. Abdelhaq Tazi, Moroccan secretary of state for foreign affairs, had Friday with Soviet Ambassador to Morocco, Mr Yevgeniy Nersesov.

The Soviet ambassador underlined the interest his country grants to Moroccan-Soviet relations in the political and economic fields.

Mr. Tazi and the Soviet diplomat also reviewed the international situation and the dangers threatening peace in the world.

SUDAN

Numayri Addresses Cabinet on Political Program

JN141618 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Khartoum, 14 Aug (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri has affirmed that the comprehensive political program, which was formulated and approved by the people's masses represented by the Fourth National SSU Congress, cannot be viewed or dealt with except within the framework of its binding legitimacy formulated by the people's masses. This was stated by President Numayri in his address to the Cabinet at the beginning of its meetings this morning. The meetings reviewed the policies of the central and regional organs and the specialized councils to implement the comprehensive political program.

President Numayri added that despite its achievements in the field of economy, the program should be promoted to achieve more progress in the economic field, on both the pan-Arab and regional levels, without creating any conflict or contradiction among our priorities and capabilities.

He also said that the social strides that accompanied the program, the brain drain, and the unscheduled immigration from the neighboring states have created positive and negative social changes.

President Numayri also said that the program has stressed the principle of simultaneous integration among the economic, social, political, and legislative fields. He added that a greater effort is required in order to realize these objectives without creating a conflict with the specialized organs and the institutions responsible for implementing the program. He added that the aims of the program require that the organs and institutions responsible for implementing the program draw up their plans in view of these aims and define their priorities within the framework of their capabilities.

President Numayri also said that regional rule and more decentralization and justice are some of the strategies of the comprehensive political program. He said we should exert our efforts to implement these strategies. Numayri concluded: The forthcoming meetings of the Cabinet will follow up the steps of the implementation of the comprehensive political program, and any success or failure, progress or stumbling will depend on efficient and comprehensive achievements.

TUNISIA

Religious Group Members Face Court Martial

LD121538 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1425 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Tunis, 12 Aug, (KUNA) -- Twenty-four people accused of belonging to a religious organization which has been aiming at overthrowing the present regime in Tunisiaare expected to appear before a court martial on 25 August in Tunis.

The accused, including 20 low-ranking officers and NCO's, belong to the Islamic Liberation Party.

ETHIOPIA

Chairman Mengistu Leaves for Congo Meeting

EA130130 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam left here today for Brazzaville to attend the 20th anniversary of the Congolese revolution. Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam was accompanied by a delegation of senior government officials, including Foreign Minister Goshu Wolde. The chairman is in Brazzaville at the invitation of the Congolese president, Comrade Sassou-Nguesso.

SOMALIA

Opposition Forces Victorious in 'Bitter' Clashes

EA122329 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] A report from the Somali Nationalist Movement, SNM, wing of the Somali opposition forces, states that on 8 August a bitter clash took place between SNM fighters and loyalist troops of the Barre regime, who were oppressing the public in and around (Bali Alanleh) village. The report adds that the SNM wing of the Somali opposition forces killed seven loyalist Barre regime soldiers and burned up a jeep.

Moreover, on 6 August, SNM fighters attacked Barre regime loyalist troops stationed at (Lebi Sagaaleh). In the ensuing fighting, the loyalist forces lost seven soldiers killed, an APC was burnt out and a jeep mounted with a field gun partially destroyed.

The reports on the engagements between the units of the SNM wing of the Somali opposition forces and the loyalist forces of the Barre regime did not state losses suffered by the SNM wing of the Somali opposition forces.

Radio Halgan: SNM Fighters Kill 20 Regime Soldiers

EA131852 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somali 1800 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] A report received from the fighters of the Somali Nationalist Movement, SNM, wing of the Somali opposition forces, states that its fighters killed 20 soldiers and wounded many others from the loyalist forces of the Barre regime.

The report from the SNM wing states that the loyalist Barre forces also lost two APC vehicles set ablaze during the SNM fighters' attacks on the loyalist Barre bases at (Ina Guha) and (Iebi Sagaaleh) towns in the northwest region of Somalia on 11 August.

The report adds that the fighting between the fighters of the SNM wing of the Somali opposition forces and the loyalist forces of the Barre regime is still going on.

The losses suffered so far by the SNM wing of the Somali opposition forces are two fighters martyred and three fighters wounded and one Toyota vehicle burned.

TANZANIA

Vice President, Visiting PRC Minister Hold Talks

EA132008 Zanzibar Domestic Service in Swahili 1600 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Zanzibar — Tanzanian Vice President Ndugu Aboud Jumbe described the visit of the Chinese state councillor and minister of foreign economic relations and trade, Chen Muhua, as important for the strengthening of the existing cooperation and understanding between China and Tanzania. He said the visit came at an appropriate time when Tanzania was engaged in moves to strengthen its economy. Ndugu Jumbe said this when holding talks with Chen Muhua in Migombani. He said Tanzania and Zambia [as heard] valued highly the fraternal cooperation existing between China and these two countries as well as all the frontline states of southern Africa.

Mrs Muhua said she was pleased with the progress she had witnessed in Tanzania and offered her sincere congratulations on behalf of her government.

Ndugu Muhua, who arrived in Zanzibar this morning for a 1-day visit, was received at the airport by the chief minister, Ndugu (Ramadhan Haji), together with other party and government officials.

She left Zanzibar this afternoon for Arusha to continue her visit of Tanzania.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Government Issues Communique on Chad

AB131450 Paris AFP in French 1347 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Bossangoa (Northeastern CAR), 13 Aug (AFP) — In an official communique handed out to AFP on Saturday in Bassangoa (300 km northwest of Bangui), where Head of State General Andre Kolingba has been presiding over the cotton harvest festival since Thursday, the CAR expressed its "great concern over the tragedy of the Chadian people" and deplored the "disquieting extent of the hostilities in that brotherly country."

The government believes that "this fratricidal war is deadly for Chad and is a serious threat to peace and security in the central African subregion." The communique recalls that the CAR, "whose principle has been and remains the recognition of states and not of regimes or governments," has always given its support to Mr Habre's legitimate government. The CAR Government appeals to all concerned to make every effort to restore peace and serenity to Chad, the communique says in conclusion.

CHAD

Reportage on Fighting in Oum Chalouba, Koro-Toro

Libyans Bomb Oum Chalouba

AB121535 Paris AFP in French 1506 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Ndjamena, 12 Aug (AFP) — On Thursday afternoon and Friday morning Libyan aircraft bombed the Oum Chalouba crossroads in northeast Chad which the Chadian National Armed Forces [FANT] took over late on Wednesday, it was learned on Friday at noon from very reliable sources in Ndjamena. The recapture of that crossroads 352 km southeast of Faya-Largeau, on the road to Abeche, the "capital" of the eastern region, had somewhat softened the effect the forced evacuation of the great palm grove in the north by the FANT on Wednesday afternoon.

Meanwhile, more details on that victory in Oum Chalouba were given on Thursday evening: In addition to the hundreds of enemy soldiers killed and the 600 captured, the FANT also seized "considerable" military equipment, including Stalin organs and many armed vehicles, an independent source announced. Also the evacuation of Faya-Largeau does not seem to have been a rout. In fact it started at the end of last week, and in spite of the raids by the Libyan jet fighters, President Hissein Habre has succeeded in saving "the essential part of his human and material resources," according to that source.

Two members of what is considered his "old guard" are reported to have successfully fled at the last minute after organizing the retreat. They are Foreign Affairs Minister Idriss Miskine, who is the number two man of the regime, and Mahamat Nouri, the general manager of Air Chad, one of the few survivors of the first guerilla war in Chad. He went underground in rebellion against President Francois Tombalbaye's regime late in the sixties. The report was, however, not confirmed in Ndjamena at noon, after the Libyan news agency JANA announced Idriss Miskine's death on Thursday evening.

Another "historic leader" of the regime, Interior Minister Tahar Guinassou, returned from Faya-Largeau early this week after spending more than 1 month at the front, an AFP special correspondent observed. Meanwhile, no ground attack was reported as of Friday noon.

Koro-Toro Bombed 12 Aug

AB121653 Paris AFP in French 1643 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 12 August (AFP) — According to reliable sources, the Libyan Air Force on Friday morning bombarded the village of Koro-Toro where the Chadian National Armed Forces retreated to after withdrawing from the Faya-Largeau palm grove, located 300 km further north. However, the intensity of the bombing remained unknown in Ndjamena late Friday afternoon.

Further on Koro-Toro Bombing

AB121756 Paris AFP in English 1747 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Ndjamena, Aug 12 (AFP) — The Libyan Air Force early today attacked the village of Koro-Toro to which the forces of Chad's President Hissein Habre retreated after evacuating the northern town of Faya-Largeau on Wednesday, reliable sources said. The village is some 300 kms (about 200 miles) south of the Faya-Largeau oasis. The sources said the scale of the Libyan attack was not known.

Koro-Toro, in the middle of the desert, appears even more vulnerable to air attacks than Faya-Largeau. At the same time, should the Libyan Army and the soldiers of ex-President Goukouni Oueddei seek to take it, Mr Habre's men could defend themselves with the war on the ground in which they excel. In that case, the Libyan Army's "steam roller" action would be less effective.

However, the Habre government forces could consider it in their interests to quit Koro-Toro for the locality of Salal, 200 km (130 miles) to the south, or for even further away, in order to escape the pursuing Libyan Air Force, some observers believe. The same would be true of Oum Chalouba, the crossroads that the Habre forces took on Wednesday night. Oum Chalouba, 350 km (about 220 miles) east of Faya-Largeau on the route to Abeche in the east, last night and this morning came under Libyan bombing, according to a reliable source here earlier today.

Paris on Libyan Offensive

LD121852 Paris Domestic Service in French 1700 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] In Chad, after conquering the Faya-Largeau palm grove, the Goukouni rebel forces and Al-Qadhdhafi's Libyan troops are now attacking a second position which commands access to the town of Abeche — the village of Oum Chalouba, which has just been retaken by Hissein Habre's troops. In this area, a new defeat

would be catastrophic for the Chadian Government. In the meantime, French paratroopers continue to arrive at Ndjamena. Here on line from Chad is our special correspondent Ulysse Gosset:

[Begin Gosset recording] After the fall of Faya-Largeau the war in Chad continues. This morning at 0850 bombing resumed on the town of Oum Chalouba, 213 km south of the great palm grove of northern Chad. The troops of Hissein Habre are still (?holding) this last blocking point before the town of Abeche to the east of Ndjamena. It has been learned here that the Libyans are now consolidating their positions at Faya-Largeau, and are giving no sign of a new offensive toward the south. It is also being said in Ndjamena that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi sent his Mirages to attack the palm grove on Wednesday, in addition to his MIGs made in the Soviet Union.

The government forces are said to have lost 400 men during the retreat from the palm grove in the fighting over the last few days, before setting up a new defense position at Koro-Toro in the center of Chad. In the capital the French paratroopers, wearing their famous red berets, had their first rain this afternoon. They are out on the streets buying souvenirs and drinking Coca-Cola in the cafes along the banks of the Chari River. For the moment there is no question of us going into operation, one of the soldiers told me. At any moment we could be called back to France, he added. So we are asking here whether the 300 French troops now in Ndjamena have come here merely to show their faces.

A last minute piece of news: Libyan aircraft are also bombarding the village of Koro-Toro right now, where the government forces retreated after evacuating Faya-Largeau. In short, the Libyan offensive is being stepped up. The air bridge between France and Chad continues, three new aircraft — a Boeing-747 and two DC-8's will take off from Toulouse this evening for Chad. They will be carrying about 100 men of the 1st Marine Infantry Airborne Regiment from Bayonne, from the 1st Combat Helicopter Regiment at Pau, as well as a detachment from the land forces light air units. The last departures will take place on Saturday, and in total the French contingent in Chad could exceed 500 men. [end recording]

Government Forces Withdraw

AB130716 Paris AFP in English 0714 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Ndjamena, Aug 13 (AFP) — Libyan air raids have forced soldiers of Chadian President Hissein Habre's frontline army to pull out of Koro-Toro, 500 kms (310 miles) north of the capital, reliable sources said here. They said that Koro-Toro, which is 300 kms south of Faya-Largeau, the northern town which fell to Libyan-backed insurgents two days ago, was vulnerable to air attacks and was also difficult to defend in land warfare since there w2s no natural line of defence. The troops were regrouping at Salal, further south, the sources said.

Observers here believe that the Chadian forces would be safe from air strikes at Salal. Reliable sources said Friday that the Libyans had also bombed Oum Chalouba, 350 km (220 miles) east of Faya-Largeau, which was recaptured by government troops on Wednesday night.

Koro-Toro Falls

LD130828 Paris Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] In Chad French troops have moved toward Goukouni Oueddei's troops backed by Libya: A contingent left during the night for eastern Chad. Here are details about it supplied live from Ndjamena by our correspondent Ulysse Gosset:

[Begin recording] Yes, it was during the night that the Red Berets left Ndjamena for the eastern part of the country. The commander of the French paratroops in Chad, Colonel Berlin Messana confirmed the news which was circulating in the form of rumors as early as yesterday evening. All night we could hear the rumble of aircraft taking off from Ndjamena Airport. Three French helicopters also left the capital for Abeche during the day. Abeche is the key town in eastern Chad, situated 700 km from Ndjamena — above all a key town as regards the Sudanese border. The French Army has even decided to set up its operations center in Abeche, which leads one to believe that there may be action for the paratroops, who are still, officially, to carry out training work. "If we are attacked we shall defend ourselves," said Colonel Messana this morning. It is the first time that such a sentence has been uttered by a French military man since the arrival of the Red Berets. Why, then, this additional commitment to Hissein Habre? Well, because the news coming from the front is very alarming today. After the fall of Faya-Largeau on Tuesday, after the bombing of various important points yesterday, this morning we learned that Koro-Toro, 600 km north of Ndjamena on the central route had not withstood the Libyan bombing. Yesterday, the whole of northern Chad was in the hands of Goukouni still backed by Colonel al-Qadhdhafi. Thus, Abeche this morning became forbidden ground. (?What then is the meaning of) France's sending of paratroops there? Until now, I remind you, these paratroops were to remain in Ndjamena. [end recording]

Kalait, Oum Chalouba Bombed

AB131405 Paris AFP in French 1339 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 13 Aug (afp) — Chadian Information Minister Soumalia Mahamat said on Saturday morning that Libya has continued "heavy bombing" in the eastern part of Chad, mainly in Oum Chalouba and Kalait (350 km to the southeast of Faya-Largeau). The new defense line set up by Hissein Habre's Chadian National Armed Forces (FANT) after their "tactical withdrawal" from Faya-Largeau is located on the road between Salal (300 km to the south of Faya-Largeau) and Oum Chalouba in Biltine, the minister said.

Mr Mahamat asserted that government troops "escaped unhurt" from the Faya-Largeau palm grove despite, he stressed, Libya's heavy air bombing. He also confirmed that Idriss Miskine, Chadian foreign affairs minister who is in charge of battlefield operations, is safe and sound. According to Mr Mahamat, 90 percent of FANT troops who withdrew from Faya-Largeau after the loss of the palm grove are presently in Salal, a village with less than 2,000 people.

On the other hand, the Chadian information minister said that as far as he knows, the "minisummit" being held in Brazzaville was not on Chad: "It is a Congolese national celebration, but the heads of state who are attending the event could occasionally talk about the situation in Chad," he stressed.

Prisoners Presented to Press

AB131730 Paris AFP in French 1713 GMT 13 Aug 83

["This dispatch was submitted to censorship" — AFP note]

[Text] Ndjamena, 13 Aug (AFP) — A total of 116 war prisoners described as Sudanese nationals enlisted into Libya's Islamic Legion were presented to the press by the Chadian authorities on Saturday afternoon at the Ndjamena jail house. Those prisoners were captured last Wednesday in Oum Chalouba during an offensive launched by former President Goukouni Oueddei's forces against the Chadian National Armed Forces who had occupied the town, the Chadian officials say.

According to Chadian authorities, the Sudanese nationals, who had gone to Libya for work, were forcibly enlisted in the famous Libyan Islamic Legion. They are reportedly from [word indistinct], in Sudan.

GUNT Communique on Fighting

AB131925 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Communique issued by the Presidency of the Transitional National Union Government in Bardai on 13 August 1983]

[Text] We are now giving you the details of the battle for Faya-Largeau. After the total liberation of Faya-Largeau 4 days ago, we bring you details of the glorious operation carried out by the National Liberation Army [ANL].

Human losses on the side of the enemy: More than 800 [as heard] corpses were discovered. Many members of the criminal organization (?with foreign identities) are scattered between Koro-Toro and Faya-Largeau. During their flight, many elements among them died of thirst. Material losses: 8 light armored vehicles [AML], including 5 in good condition, were seized, while 3 other AML and 20 heavy arms of French and U.S. make were destroyed. (?Twelve) other heavy arms in good condition were seized. These include rocket-launchers, 105 and 106 cannons, Milan missiles, and various heavy machineguns. In addition, 40 vehicles were destroyed while 80 other light vehicles and trucks carrying food supplies, ammunition, and equipment (?of all kinds) provided by France and United States were seized.

On the side of the ANL: 15 soldiers were killed and 43 others injured. After mopping-up operations were completed in Faya-Largeau, the ANL forces continued their search for the criminal hordes. After retreating to Koro-Toro, the fugitives were dislodged from there by the ANL and pursued down to Salal, 474 km from Ndjamena.

On the eastern front, the operations of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] revolutionary forces are becoming more intensive. Currently, the Faya-Largeau-Oum Chalouba-Koro Toro axis is under ANL control. Contrary to the deceitful, fascist propaganda of the now hard-pressed reactionary clique in Ndjamena, there was no Libyan intervention. Also, the alleged presence of Libyan troops on the side of the ANL is a gross lie told by imperialists. This goes for the so-called bombing of Oum Chalouba. (?Is it not surprising) to see French paratroopers assit the jailer of Francoise Claustre and murderer of Major Gallopin? All of this is the work of a socialist France.

French Presidential Envoy Arrives in Ndjamena

LD141040 Paris Domestic Service in French 1000 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Guy Penne has just arrived in Ndjamena from Bangui in Central Africa. Mitterrand's adviser is expected to hold talks this afternoon with President Hissein Habre on the military situation in Chad.

Holds Talks With Habre

AB141245 Paris AFP in English 1228 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Ndjamena, Aug 14 (AFP) — French presidential advisor for African affairs Guy Penne arrived here today and had an hour of talks with Chadian leader Hissein Habre. The French ambassador to Chad, Claude Soubeste, attended the meeting. Mr Penne declined to make any comment after the talks.

Sudanese Delegation Arrives With Numayri Message

AB141035 Paris AFP in French 1022 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 14 Aug (AFP) — A three-man Sudanese delegation led by the under secretary of state for foreign affairs, Hachim Ousmane, arrived Sunday morning in Ndjamena. The delegation, which arrived in the Chadian capital in a Sundanese Air Force plane, is carrying a message from Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri to Chadian President Hissein Habre. The delegation return home on Sunday.

Government Reiterates Call for Intervention

OW130556 Hong Kong AFP in English 0540 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Ndjamena, Aug 13 (AFP) — The Chadian Government asked again on Friday for direct intervention by France and the United States against Libyan aggression. The state radio broadcast a communique last night which said the Cabinet had met here to review the national and international situation. The government renews its pressing appeal to the Governments of France and the United States for direct, massive and urgent intervention.

The Cabinet denounced intensified Libyan aggression against the independence, sovereignty, freedom and territorial integrity of Chad. It said the result had been the occupation of the whole of the northern Borkou-Ennedi-Tibesti Province, an area slightly

larger than France. The government asked for firm condemnation of Libya by the United Nations and the Organisation of African Unity.

Habre Calls for OAU Meeting on Dispute

AB131550 Paris AFP in French 1532 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 13 Aug (AFP) — Chadian President Hissein Habre on Saturday called "insistently" on the President of the OAU ad hoc committee on the Chad-Libya dispute to convene a meeting of the committee "as soon as possible." In a letter sent to the current OAU chairman and president of Ethiopia, and (?carried) by the Chadian national radio, the Chadian head of state explained that "in the present context, only the ad hoc committee is qualified to examine the dispute between the two countries."

Chad's request comes while an OAU minisummit is expected to take place in the presence of the organization's chairman in Brazzaville during the festivities marking the 20th anniversary of the Congolese revolution. "The time has come for Africa and the world to assume their responsibilities in the face of Libya's aggression and genocide and its occupation of Chad," the Chadian head of state says. Some time ago, the OAU chairman denounced "foreign interventions" in Chad without calling names.

Government Ready To Negotiate With Libya

AB131425 Paris AFP in English 1411 GMT 11 Aug 83

[Text] Ndjamena, Aug 13 (AFP) — Libyan planes this morning continued intensive bombing of positions in eastern Chad of the forces of President Hissein Habre, notably at Oum Chalouba and Kalait, an official Hissein Habre, government source said. Information Minister Soumaila Mahamat said Mr Habre's forces had established a new defence line between the town of Salal and Oum Chalouba, in the Biltine region, following their withdrawal from Faya-Largeau earlier in the week.

The government forces took the Oum Chalouba cross-roads from their adversaries, led by ex-President Goukouni Oueddei, on Wednesday night after their withdrawal from the Faya-Largeau palm grove. About 90 percent of the forces which retreated from the northern oasis in the face of intensive Libyan air raids are said to be at Salal. Reliable sources earlier said that Mr Habre's men had been forced to pull out of the town of Koro-Toro, 300 km (200 miles), south of Faya-Largeau, on which they had earlier fallen back, because of Libyan aerial bombardment.

Mr Maharnat also said that Chad was ready to negotiate with Libya, which is backing the insurgents loyal to ex-President Goukouni, whom Mr Habre's men ousted from Ndjamena in June last year after a previous long war. But he added that Tripoli would have to accept the principle of negotiation. The problem was that for the Libyan leaders, Mr Habre's government did not exist, the information minister said.

The Habre government, in a radio broadcast last night, again called for direct intervention by the United States and France. Washington and Paris have sent arms, and France has just sent 500 troops, officially as advisers. Zaire has sent some 2,000 troops and a few planes to back the Habre forces.

According to the radio, Libyan intervention on behalf of ex-President Goukouni had resulted in the occupation of the whole of Chad northern Borkou-Ennedi-Tibesti region, an area larger than France. The commander of the French troops, Colonel Bernard Messana, said about 150 of his men were today despatched to the town of Abeche in the east of the country. He said that they were intended solely to instruct the Chadian Government forces. "However, if they are attacked, it is obvious they will defend themselves," Colonel Messana said.

The French forces are mostly paratroop units, some equipped with light armoured cars, some helicopter-borne. Colonel Messana said he was expecting the arrival of three Puma helicopters today or tomorrow. French presidential adviser for African affairs Guy Penne is meanwhile expected to arrive in Ndjamena tomorrow for talks with the authorities in the capital.

GUNT Issues Communique on Negotiations

AB131840 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Communique issued by the Presidency of the Transitional National Union Government in Bardai on 13 August 1983]

[Text] The Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] highly appreciates all initiatives by friendly countries with the view to finding a peaceful solution to the Chadian crisis. The GUNT makes it a point to remind the African heads of state invited to the Brazzaville meeting that the crisis which Chad is going through is caused by the French-U.S. imperialist forces trying to impose an antinational regime in Chad in order to safeguard their interests.

In the face of these maneuvers aimed at liquidating the Chadian nation, the GUNT, the National Liberation Army [ANL], (?and) the revolutionary people are offering fierce resistance and waging a liberation struggle so that peace, justice, and national independence will prevail. The GUNT makes a solemn appeal to the heads of state of brotherly and friendly countries to condemn the direct intervention of French paratroopers as well as aircraft and mercenaries from the United States, Zaire, Sudan, and Egypt in the internal conflict in Chad. We appreciate the Congolese initiative.

With regard to the issue of negotiations, the GUNT reiterates its constant position, which is aimed at achieving the necessary national reconciliation among all the children of Chad, especially with the FAN, which will eventually realize the nature of their leaders and their own mistake. Clarifications on this point will be sent without delay to the African heads of state now meeting in Brazzaville.

The GUNT makes it a point to deny formally any Libyan bombing of Oum Chalouba and Koro-Toro, which are both under the full control of the ANL.

Paris Reports Unrest Spreading in South
LD131232 Paris Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Ndjamena "special correspondent" Ulysee Gosset report]

[Excerpt] The still impressive air bridge to Ndjamena leads one to believe that the announced 500 men will in fact be more numerous than planned. After the defeat suffered by Hissein Habre's troops, this morning's [word indistinct] is more than necessary. The whole of northern Chad is now occupied by Goukouni's men and their Libyan allies. There is a real threat of a division of Chad into two zones. For Hissein Habre, there is also another threat: It has been learned here that unrest is spreading in the south of the country. Libya is reported to be financing groups of guerrilla fighters who have never liked Hissein Habre, the man from the north.

CONGO

Soviet Delegation Arrives for Anniversary
AB121915 Dakar PANA in French 1815 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Brazzaville, 12 Aug (ACI/PANA) — A Soviet state and CPSU delegation headed by I.P. Kalin, deputy chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, arrived in Brazzaville today to attend the 20th anniversary of the Congolese revolution. On his arrival at the Maya-Maya Airport in Brazzaville, the Soviet statesman lauded the successes of the Congolese people since the 3 glorious days — 13, 14, and 15 August 1963.

Mr Kaline added that the founding of the Congolese Labor Party, the 5th February Movement, and the third extraordinary congress constitute real landmarks of the revolution. The struggle of the Congolese people against imperialist oppression is greatly appreciated by all peace and freedom-loving forces.

GHANA

PANA: Government Issues Statement on Chad

AB121600 Dakar PANA in English 1545 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Accra, 12 August (GNA/PANA) — Ghana has strongly condemned the inter-nationalisation of the Chadian conflict which it regards as essentially internal and called on all outside forces to desist from further interference, direct or indirect. In a statement issued last night, the ruling PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] called on the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) to redouble its efforts to find a lasting solution to the conflict and save Chad from further suffering. It noted that what was essentially an internal conflict was being turned into an explosive international situation as a result of the massive military aid being given to the forces of President Hissein Habre by the United States and France. Noting that the government had watched with increasing concern the worsening Chadian situation, the statement said joint military exercises being undertaken by the United States with allies of President Habre was threatening to develop into a military confrontation which posed a dangerous threat to the peace, security and independence of African states. It renewed its support for the call by the OAU for all outside powers to stop interfering in the conflict and said the only prospect of a permanent solution to the Chadian problem lies in a political settlement.

Four 19 June Coup Plotters Executed 13 Aug

AB130650 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Four persons sentenced to death by the public tribunal were executed at dawn today. They were Major Samuel Boateng Okyere, Corporal Edward Osei, ex-Corporal Evans Safo, and Private Henry Obeng. The death sentences have been confirmed by the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] in respect of these four persons. The death sentence imposed on ex-Warrant Officer II Joseph Osae-Kwakye was commuted to life imprisonment by the PNDC.

LIBERIA

Doe Statement Calls for OAU Summit on Chad

AB131945 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] The Liberian leader, Commander in Chief [CIC] Samuel Kanyon Doe, has called for an extraordinary session of the OAU to discuss the Chadian conflict. An Executive Mansion release issued in Monrovia today said the call for the meeting was due to the escalation of the conflict in Chad. The statement said the conflict in Chad is no longer a civil war, but a conflict between Chad and Libya. Dr Doe said Libya's aggression against the people of Chad can no longer be tolerated by members of the OAU. He said if African countries fail to deal with the conflict in Chad, other small countries in the region may experience the same fate.

This is the second time in 3 weeks that CIC Doe has officially commented on the Chadian issue. Last month, the CIC blasted the current chairman of the OAU, Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam of Ethiopia, for what CIC Doe then said was the Ethiopian leader's biased stand in the conflict.

The OAU chairman had earlier condemned America's intervention in Chad, saying America's support for President Hissein Habre's regime could result in a serious escalation of the conflict in Chad.

Government Resumes Diplomatic Relations With Israel

AB132100 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1917 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Statement by Liberian Foreign Affairs Minister T. Ernest Eastman in Monrovia on 13 August 1983 — recorded]

[Text] The Government of Liberia has decided to resume normal diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level with the State of Israel. This decision is taken because of the strong belief that continued estrangement and isolation of Israel undermine the prospect for a peaceful solution of the Middle East problem. An objective review of the situation in the Middle East today indicates that the ostensible reason for the severence of diplomatic relations with Israel — solidarity with Egypt for the occupation of its territory by Israel by force of arms — no longer exists since the territory of Egypt has been restored and Egypt has, in fact, resumed diplomatic relations with Israel. Significantly, this development was brought about through negotiations between the two parties. It is recalled that in a statement issued in June 18, 1983, the Liberian leader noted that while Liberia remains committed to the Arab cause, it feels that the return of all Arab lands occupied by Israel and the Palestinian question could be more fruitfully resolved through negotiations. He therefore expressed government's determination to reexamine its policy with respect to Israel.

The decision to resume normal intercourse with Israel, the Government of Liberia believes, is consistent with Liberia's Middle East policy which continues to be based on the following friendly-level [as heard] three points: that a just and lasting peace cannot prevail in the Middle East without due recognition of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to a state of their own; that Israel must completely withdraw from all occupied Arab lands and; that all states in the region, including Israel, have the right to live freely within secured and internationally recognized boundaries with the fullest respect for their territorial integrity and sovereignty. Thank you.

NIGERIA

Shagari on Composition of New Administration

AB120910 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 11 Aug 83

[Text] At a world news conference in Lagos today, President Shehu Shagari gave some details about the composition of his new administration.

[Begin Shagari recording] Well, the new administration may have to reexamine the whole structure with the view to improving it. In fact, I have already issued instructions to my secretary to send circulars to all political appointees, from the ministers to the [words indistinct] to submit their resignation by the 30th of September — everyone — to enable me to set up a new government.

I tried in the previous administration, at the beginning, to have a coalition with all the parties and I was rebuffed by them. Later on, one of the parties agreed to join us [words indistinct]. We tried but failed and from that experience I am not [words indistinct] of any accord, but I still feel that all Nigerians should join hands with me in building this country and in so doing I prefer to have a cross section of Nigerians within my government, including those who do not belong to my party. If they agree, I will be happy to appoint them, but it depends on whether their political parties are prepared to allow them to do so. The difference is that although I am prepared to include people belonging to other parties in my government, I do not consider it desirable to sign an agreement or an accord. But I will be open to discuss with all the parties and their leaders in a spirit of cooperation, but in the event of my taking any of their members, they must [word indistinct] and cooperate with me because that will enrich my government. But not under a signed agreement. [passage indistinct] We have our own program, the program of my party, that I am bound to implement [passage indistinct]

Already, we have declared that we are going to put emphasis on agriculture more than anything else. We shall pursue this very vigorously because we believe that without sifficient agricultural products, we cannot claim to be independent. We will (?pool) all our efforts toward self-reliance, particularly in agricultural production and [words indistinct] local industries which, I think, we have already started and which we will pursue very vigorously in the new government. [end recording]

UPPER VOLTA

Secret Agreements, Thwarted Coup Plans Reported

AB140750 Paris AFP in English 0410 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Ouagadougou, Aug. 14 (AFP) — The Upper Voltan regime ousted early this month had drawn up secret new military cooperation agreements with France and was on the point of bringing in troops from abroad to subdue an emergent people's movement, the government-sponsored weekly *Carrefour Africain* reported here Saturday. It said the agreements had been signed by Foreign Minister Michel Kafando — it did not say when — and were to have been made official "after the elimination of progressive officers".

The agreements would have given Upper Volta "the neo-colonial status which governs military relations between France and certain of its former colonies. The agreements allowed France to intervene militarily in the internal affairs of various states to maintain existing regimes by force when France considered its interests were under threat," *Carrefour Africain* said.

The periodical gave an account of the putsch on the night of August 4. It said that date had been chosen because information had been received that a "neo-colonial faction" of the ruling army regime planned to make its own move the following night. The paper said the plot was to oust "puppet" head of state Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo and replace him by "the gang" of former Army Chief of Staff Some Yorian. The other part of the plan was to attack, with mercenary help, the para-commando training centre at Po, a town 165 km south of the capital.

A big convoy of new arms supplied by France was moved on August 4 to the stronghold of Major Fidele Guebre, a collaborator of Colonel Yorian, at Dedougou 230 km north-west of here, *Carrefour Africain said.*

In a pre-emptive move, the paratroopers at Po under camp commandant Captain Blaise Compaore marched that evening on the capital to back leftwing Captain Thomas Sankara in his own successful bid for power. They formed up on the outskirts at 8 p.m. in five squads poised to take the presidential residence, the radio station, the gendarmerie and riot police headquarters, and the armoured car regimental base, the paper recounted.

Their attack was mounted at 9:30 p.m. just after Major Ouedraogo had finished broadcasting a 23rd independence anniversary speech, and achieved complete surprise, the paper said. Lively resistance came from the armoured car regiment, but stopped when its units realised they were encircled, the paper said. It added that their "cowardly" commander Captain Jean-Claude Kamoule "abandoned his men and fled in a civilian car".

Official sources have since reported that Col. Yorian and Maj. Guebre were shot dead while trying to escape five days after the coup that thwarted their own.

AFP Borders Open for 12 Hours 12 August

AB130825 Paris AFP in English 0816 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Ni Woloko, Upper Volta, Aug 13 (AFP) — Upper Volta opened its borders for 12 hours on Friday for the first time since the military coup of August 4. Dozens of lorries with supplies, taxis and private cars thronged this small frontier post throughout the day after it opened at dawn. It is the main entry point from Ivory Coast, whose port of Abidjan is the principal transit point for Voltan exports and imports.

One of Upper Volta's daily papers commented that some relaxation of the border closure ordered when Captain Thomas Sankara seized power had become necessary because stocks in the country were running low and there was a risk of damage to the economy.

Many of the vehicles lining up on the muddy road here yesterday either side of the border had been waiting all week. Their passengers, including tourists and businessmen, clubbed [as received] together as best they could.

[Words indistinct] with groundnut sauce was the main staple. They [word indistinct] mats out in the open air until the rains began a few days ago.

AFP: Situation Returning to Normal After Coup
AB131637 Paris AFP in French 1148 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Ouagadougou, 13 Aug (AFP) — The situation is slowly returning to normal in Upper Volta almost 10 days after the coup by Captain Thomas Sankara and the National Council of the Revolution [CNR], established after the overthrow of Major Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo, and is now trying to consolidate its support among the popular masses.

On Saturday, life in Ouagadougou was normal, with its overcrowded streets buzzing with people and traffic and its big market in full operation. The Upper Voltan capital does not seem to have suffered from the clashes which took place on the night of 4 August and the morning of 5 August. Damage has not been great, only bullet holes in walls where the clashes were most violent, mainly around the gendarmerie offices and the president's residence.

The only large groups of troops can be seen in front of the offices of the Upper Voltan National Raji and in front of the headquarters of the Entente Council, where Capt Sankara lives, guarded by tanks marked by Arabic letters and by light armored vehicles.

The reopening of borders and airports on Friday, although still partial (from 0600 to 1800), was another step toward returning the situation to normal. On Saturday, however, a reliable source said that the Abidjan-Niger railroad (RAN) the rail link between Ouagadougou, Bobo-Dioulassou, and Abidjan, has not resumed operating. Air traffic between Ouagadougou and Abidjan is halted, with flights suspended. It was impossible to get specific information on the reasons for these delays in the resumption of air and rail traffic between Ivory Coast and Upper Volta since road traffic effectively resumed on Friday.

According to observers, the next stage in normalizing the situation in Upper Volta should be the establishing of new political institutions and the lifting of the curfew, which is still in effect from 1900 to 0530. For the past few days marches of solidarity with the National Council of the Revolution and its leader, Capt Thomas Sankara, have been organized throughout the country. One of these marches took place on Saturday morning in Ouagadougou. Thousands of demonstrators, very excited and mostly young, came in overcrowded trucks and private cars, or walked, shaking tree branches, raising their fight and shouting revolutionary slogans.

Starting their march from "La Place de 3 Janvier" (date on which the Maurice Yameogo regime was overthrown in 1966), the demonstrators marched to the president's residence where they loudly applauded Major Jean-Baptiste Lingani who was representing Capt Sankara. He is the head of the high command of the Upper Voltan National Armed Forces and is considered the "number two" man in the CNR. Also present at the solidarity march was the Moro Naba, emperor of the Mossi, the major ethnic group, as well as traditional chiefs, some of whom rode on horses with their [word indistinct]. According to observers, this march was aimed at testing the popularity of the new regime, and once again it was possible to see Capt Thomas Sankara's degree of popularity, mainly among the young.

As in Ouagadougou, the situation in the interior of the country is calm and appears to be normal. This applied especially to Bobo-Dioulasso, the economic capital, situated at the country's border with Mali and the Ivory Coast. Check points along the 365 km route from Bobo-Dioulasso to Ouagadougou have not been increased. The AFP correspondent only noted the discrete presence in the bush of groups of soldiers some 50 kilometers from the capital, with their guns pointing to the road.

On the other hand, before entering Ouagadougou, luggage is searched. Peace seems to prevail in Upper Volta even though vigilance remains a rule. According to observers, the present measures are different from those taken after the 7 November 1982 coup which brought Major Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo to power. Maj Ouedraogo allegedly transferred from Ouagadougou to Po, some 165 km southeast of the capital, the headquarters of the paracommando group which Capt Sankara commanded.

ANGOLA

Reportage on FAPLA-UNITA Fighting in Moxico

Luanda on UNITA Defeat

MB140922 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] The People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] have inflicted yet another heavy defeat upon the puppets and mercenaries in the service of Pretoria over the past few days in the Cangamba region, Moxico Province. This has been reported by ANGOP, which quoted official sources. The enemy left about 1,100 dead on the ground and fled in disarray. According to sources the enemy had attacked the Cangamba position at 0600 on 2 August. At the moment members of the Angolan news media are in the area to ascertain the extent of the defeat inflicted by the armed wing of the Angolan people upon the lackeys and mercenaries of the most hideous regime on the entire African Continent.

It will be recalled that those who render their services to Pretoria today served the colonial fascist yoke in the past, and by aligning themselves with the exploiters and oppressors they sought to stop the struggle of the Angolan people for their liberation. It has been proven that they were nothing but mere servants of the Police for the Control of Foreigners and Defense of the State-Directorate General for Security, the repressive police of the Salazar and Caetano clique.

In Cangamba the enemy was defeated once again, after 8 days of fierce fighting. Portuguese radio transmitted a UNITA communique claiming that UNITA forces had surrounded FAPLA units stationed at Cangamba. This report achieved nothing, because such propaganda did not prevent UNITA forces from being defeated and forced to flee in disarray. During that period, UNITA, which had the direct support of racist South Africans, including specialized personnel in aviation, machinery, supplies, and ammunition, tried in vain to capture that military position. With audacity, courage, and heroism FAPLA forces stationed at Cangamba managed to defeat the enemy, leaving 1,100 dead, and a large number of wounded, taking many prisoners and capturing a variety of weapons of Western origin, particularly from South Africa.

Thanks to the heroism of the glorious FAPLA forces in Cangamba and their determination in defending the fatherland and the gains of our people we defeated the enemy. Despite the heavy military and political blows that the enemy has been suffering, and the setbacks to his morale, as a result of direct clashes with our units, it still seeks to give our riches to the imperialists and racist South Africans in order to continue the exploitation of our people.

We regret the death of 53 courageous FAPLA combatants, who did not spare effort, including the sacrifice of their own lives, in order to defend the revolution.

UNITA is likely to continue to massacre defenseless civilians in the villages, to kidnap foreign nationals, and to destroy the property of the people while making claims to the sensationalist press of certain Western capitalist countries. However, in the case of Cangamba UNITA said in advance that it was conquered land, but they had forgotten that this time they were fighting against Angolan soldiers and not against defenseless civilians, as is usually the case. Since UNITA was defeated there, they have not spoken of Cangamba since.

Defense Minister Visits Moxico

MB141040 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] The enemy is still armed and in Moxico Province UNITA puppet groups are active because of the support they get from South Africa, a country which exploits and massacres the people and violates all human rights. This was said by Colonel Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale, minister of defense, at a rally held at 1 August Square in Luena yesterday. Col Pedale also spoke of the need for combat readiness among FAPLA forces and the need to use the new recruits so that they can repel all attacks by the enemy. He said that this is the only way in which we can form cadres to guarantee the development of our country.

The minister of defense condemned UNITA's sabotage of the train last month, in which scores of civilians, mostly peasants, were killed. Such barbarity by the puppets must be relentlessly fought by the people as a whole because, as the late President Neto said, we do not cry for our dead. We die while fighting for popular democracy and socialism, the minister of defense said.

Col Pedale said that the enemy serves the strategy outlined by imperialism to prevent the triumph of liberation movements and developing countries. Therefore, it is necessary to continue to fight and defend our revolution so that we can raise the flag of freedom, Col Pedale said. During his speech the minister of defense spoke of the propaganda methods used by UNITA lackeys to intimidate defenseless civilians, namely such methods used in the occupation of Moxico Province and its transformation into a so-called black African republic. Col Pedale called upon the people to step up vigilance and to expose all actions of the UNITA puppets in the service of the Pretoria regime.

Col Pedale has been in Moxico Province for several days, and he has already visited Cangamba, the area where our glorious FAPLA forces once again inflicted heavy defeats upon the UNITA puppets, leaving hundreds of them dead and wounded, and capturing large quantities of war equipment. In Cangamba, Col Pedale held a meeting with forces of the 32d Brigade, during which he hailed them for their ability and their brave and revolutionary spirit in stopping the latest murderous attempt of the UNITA criminal puppets. Col Pedale is accompanied by Major (de Sousa), deputy chief of the FAPLA National Political Directorate, and other FAPLA officers.

Communique Cites RSA Attacks

MB150720 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 15 Aug 83

[Communique from the Ministry of Defense issued in Luanda 15 August through ANGOP]

[Text] International imperialism led by the United States does not cease to attack the revolutionary gains of the Angolan people and the liberation movement in southern Africa. In order to achieve its goal, its uses the Pretoria racist regime and Angolan puppet gangs to destabilize the normal development of the People's Republic of Angola. Therefore, since 2 August we have been witnessing the intensification of coordinated actions between racist South Africa, UNITA, and mercenaries of several nationalities directed in particular against Cangamba village, where they were repulsed by the combatants of the armed wing of the Angolan people, the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA], and left behind on the ground about 1,100 dead and large quantities of war equipment.

In the wake of the defeat suffered yesterday, 14 August, since 0645 eight aircraft of the South African Air Force, consisting of four Canberra and four Impala MK-II aircraft, intensely bombed Congamba village.

Since 10 August, the racist South African Army has put into the free and sovereign territory of the People's Republic of Angola, in Cuando Cubango Province, several tactical groups which are at this moment heading north, with one group in the Luengue area, another group south of the Villa Nova da Armada area, and a third group south of (Caongo). Meanwhile, in the occupied areas of Cunene Province, the South African racist forces have introduced three more tactical groups, one in the Mumba area and two between Caluengue and Cuamato.

The sudden escalation of these aggressive actions by the Pretoria racist forces now, on a large scale and penetrating deeply in Cuando Cubango and Moxico Provinces, is the beginning of a further new large-scale invasion with the aim of expanding the area currently occupied and also attributing to the puppets the actions carried out by them.

Further on RSA Strikes, Buildup

MB150725 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 15 Aug 83

[Text] Latest reports issued by ANGOP indicate that South Africa's destabilizing actions have been stepped up against the People's Republic of Angola. The South African racists have lately been carrying out actions against various Angolan positions as well as reinforcing concentrations of troops in the occupied areas of southern Angola.

According to reports compiled by ANGOP, the South African racists are thus trying to give support to lackeys and mercenaries who have been defeated in the Cangamba area, 500 km from the border with Namibia, which is occupied by the racist apartheid regime forces. Accordingly, air bombing raids are taking place against Quiteve and north of Mulundo, in Cunene Province, in which napalm bombs are used.

Sources have informed ANGOP of buildups of units of the South African regular army north of Mavinga and Vila Nova da Armada, southwest of Caiundo in Cuando Cubango Province, as the racists were reinforcing their positions in Changongo, Evale, and Ngiva in Cunene Province. This buildup is estimated at about 2,000 men.

UNITA Communique Issued

MB131215 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Communique by the UNITA Political Bureau on the "destruction of the train in Moxico Province" issued 30 July]

[Text] The destruction of train No 203 when it was departing from Luena and not 16 km away was in reply to various needs:

A. The train was carrying the 73d Battalion of the 21st Brigade of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] together with Cuban advisers and was heading to Luao from where it would proceed to Cazombo to help MPLA positions at Caianda, (Cavungo), (Cazondo), Lumbala- (Kaquengue) and Caripande, which have been under siege by UNITA since June 1983.

B. The country's roads, airports, harbors, railways, and economic complexes are regarded as military targets since they support or are able to give support to the Cuban and FAPLA military actions against UNITA and the civilian population living in the forests.

C. UNITA armed forces as a whole, particularly the special commando units, are at present complying with Directive No 5 of the UNITA Central Committee in all areas regarded as war zones. The directive refers to communication routes.

D. Investigations conducted by the clandestine services of UNITA in Luena and Luanda on the attack against the Luena train on 26 July 1983 indicated that 78 people were killed and 319 were wounded, including Cubans, FAPLA elements, and People's Defense Organization [ODP] forces. Some ODP members were traveling together with their families since they were part of an independent ODP unit. Except for their pay scale, such a unit falls under the same rules governing FAPLA. That is, they are allowed to take their family members whenever the unit is deployed. Both the Cuban dead and wounded and the FAPLA officers wounded were evacuated by plane to Luanda hospital.

2. [as heard] After listening to and carefully analyzing the statement made by Paulo Jorge to Belgian journalists on 26 July 1983 in Luanda, UNITA comments as follows:

A. We believe that Paulo Jorge expressed the views of his faction within the MPLA rather than the MPLA as a whole.

B. UNITA maintains open its offer for direct negotiations with the MPLA with the aim of finding a peaceful solution for the

Angolan conflict, thus making it possible to bring about independence for Namibia and the withdrawal of the Cuban expeditionary force from our country. Time, terrain, and the people work in favor of UNITA. Within a foreseeable period UNITA will have all Angolan cities under siege, and then the final directive of our liberating struggle will come into action. In view of the presence of the Cubans, UNITA accepts all sorts of material aid, wherever it might come from.

The struggle triumphs. United, we shall win.

[Signed] Dr Jonas Malheiro Savimbi, chairman of UNITA.

Angola, 30 July 1983, year of anti-Cuban production.

Lisbon: UNITA Captures Cangamba

LD151241 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 15 Aug 83

[Text] Here is a last minute piece of news: The National Union for the Total Independence of Angola has captured the town of Cangamba. A dispatch from the news agency NOTICIAS DE PORTUGAL datelined Lisbon says that UNITA forces have taken the strategic town of Cangamba, eastern Angola, and that this was announced by UNITA itself today. The town of Cangamba was taken on Sunday by three UNITA brigades after an 11-day siege.

A communique issued by UNITA adds that Luanda government troops carried out 321 air bombings with napalm and phosphorus, using MIG and Antonov aircraft and MI-23 and MI-24 helicopters. The communique, signed by Jonas Savimbi, also says that 709 government troops were killed, including 120 Cubans, and that 165 MPLA troops were captured.

UNITA also claims to have shot down, in the same operation, 5 MIG-21 fighters and 4 MI-23 helicopters and to have captured 2,300 weapons as well as 12 Soviet-made BDRM vehicles. UNITA says that 63 of its guerrillas died and 200 were wounded. Finally, UNITA says that the battle for Cangamba — the last MPLA position in UNITA's drive toward the city of Luena — was led by the chief of UNITA's general staff.

SOUTH AFRICA

Defense Force Denies Support to UNITA in Moxico

MB140944 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0800 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] South Africa has been accused of direct military involvement on the side of Angolan rebels in a major battle. The official Angola news agency, ANGOP, claims South African instructors and warplanes backed up UNITA in a battle in which the rebels were dealt major losses. ANGOP says Angolan Government forces killed 1,100 rebels in 8 days of fighting in the southeastern Moxico Province earlier this month. The fighting took place around Cangamba, 460 km north of the Namibian border.

A SADF spokesperson says the Angolan claims are a transparent attempt to blame UNITA's military successes on South Africa. Last week UNITA said it had killed 273 Army regulars.

Spokesman Denies Bombing Attacks

MB150622 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 15 Aug 83

[Text] A spokesman for the defense headquarters in Pretoria says the defense force is not prepared to comment on such flagrant and obviously false propaganda as the latest Angola claims that eight South African aircraft have made repeated bombing attacks on a town in southern Angola.

He was approached for comment on a report by the Angolan news agency, ANGOP, that four Canberra bombers and four Impala aircraft of the South African Air Force had attacked the town of Cangamba in the Angolan Province of Moxico. The report followed earlier claims that Angolan Army units had repelled an attack by Angolan resistance fighters. ANGOP quoted unidentified soucres as saying that government troops had fought off UNITA forces in a battle which had lasted 8 days.

Soviet Missiles Reported in Angola, Mozambique

MB130746 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] The Soviet Union has deployed one of its most advanced ground-to-air missile systems, the SAM-8, in Angola and Mozambique as part of the military buildup on South Africa's borders. This has been revealed in Pretoria by the chairman of the Armaments Corporation of South Africa, ARMSCOR, Commandant Piet Marais, who said that the news had been confirmed by people in those two countries 3 weeks ago.

He said that there were two SAM-8 installations in Angola, and two in Mozambique, and that Soviet personnel were there to man them. The SAM-8 is a descendant of the SAM-6, which was used to great effect against Israel's American- and French-made warplanes in the 1973 Middle East war. The missiles can fly from treetop height up to 10,000 meters, can climb as fast as any plane up to the speed of sound, use heat-seeking and radar devices to find their target, and have a range of 20 km. As far as is known, it has never yet been used in combat.

SWAZILAND

Dispute Over Queen Regent Appointment Continues

Government Statement

MB121838 Mbabane Domestic Television Service in English 1745 GMT 12 Aug 83

[English translation read by Mbambi Mnisi, private secretary to the queen mother and regent, of statement by Prince Sozisa, the authorized person, in response to rumors of dispute within the royal family regarding the appointment of Prince Makhosetive as crown prince, heir to the Swazi throne, and Ntombi LaThwala

as queen mother and regent, at Enkhanini Royal Residence "this evening" — recorded]

[Text] Statement by the authorized person:

The Elders of the Nation are surprised to be informed that some children of our late father, King Sobhuza II, have in the name of the elders summoned the nation to Esibayeni [Royal Cattle Byre] on the pretext that Inkhosikati Dzeliwe was unconstitutionally removed from being Indlovukazi [queen mother]. The elders wish to inform those who may not know that the installation and removal of the Indlovukazi is according to Swazi law and custom, completely out of the purview of the children of the immediate king. Therefore, none of the children who issued the statement has any say in this matter.

The nation is, therefore, warned that anyone fighting the confirmation of the new Indlovukazi is a contender and has pretension to the crown of Swaziland. Prince Makhosetive became crown prince by the unanimous decision of the senior princes responsible for succession in August 1982. By the same token, Indluvukazi LaThwala became Indluvukazi-designate on that date. Consequently, not one child of King Sobhuza II can object to the confirmation made on Tuesday, unless, he sees himself a future king, in place of Makhosetive.

The Swazi nation should take note of such a prince. Thank you.

Meeting Held

MB130604 [Editorial Report] Mbabane *The Times of Swaziland* in English on 13 August 1983 carries a front-page story on the 12 August statements by the authorized person and Prime Minister Bhekimpi on the debate over the naming of a new queen regent. The report says that the statement by the authorized person, Prince Sozisa, was issued at "the national offices in Lobamba." It also says:

"Among those present at Lobamba were: Mr Vusumuzi Bhembe, Dr. George Msibi, Prince Makhungu, Prince Mfanasibili, Mfanawenkhosi Maseko, Minister of Agriculture A.K. Hlophe, Foreign Minister R.V. Dlamini, Princess Mnengwase, Princess Simangele, Prince Phiwokwake, Prince Phuhlaphi, Prince Khanyakwezwe, Prince Lusekwane, Chief Madzanga, Prince Mshelevu, Mr Mhambi Mnisi, and Mr Magangeni Dlamini."

Reporting on Prime Minister Bhekimpi's statement, the paper says in conclusion: "Present at the meeting were Minister for Justice Dr Polycarp Dlamini, Minister for Agriculture Mr A.K. Hlophe, Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr R.V. Dlamini, and the King's Senior Liaison Officer Mr Mhambi Mnisi.

"Earlier yesterday morning, *The Observer's* editor, Mr Chiza Ngwira, was summoned to the prime minister's office."

Former Regent To 'Fight'

MB140611 Johannesburg City Press in English 14 Aug 83 p 2

[By Desmond Blow in Mbabane]

[Text] "I'd rather die than leave my children in the hands of the Liqoqo," Swaziland's ousted regent declared this week. Queen Dzeliwe told her royal household she would fight her deposition "all the way" because it was unconstitutional.

Speaking for the first time since she was ousted as head of state this week, Queen Dzeliwe said she had lost her post because she refused to transfer all powers to the Liqoqo, the traditional "supreme council of state". She said she was threatened with the loss of her regalia of office if she defied a ruling that she did not question the Liqoqo's decisions.

Queen Dzeliwe also told the household that the prime minister, Prince Bhekimmpi, and two other members of the Liqoqo, Prince Mfanasibili and Prince Dabede, had called on her to sign a document, but had not produced four chiefs as is customary to witness her signature. Prince Bhekimpi and Prince Dabede had told her their presence was sufficient. She then summoned the principal secretary to the minister of agriculture, Arthur Khoza, to interpret the document for her. When he had, she refused to sign.

The governor of Lobamba, Nduvuna Vusumuzi Bhembe, and Lusendovo Fakudze also reported to the royal household. They said they had been briefed by Prince Bhekimpi, Dr George Msibi, and Sozisa Dlamini, the authorised person appointed by King Sobhuza before his death to serve as the queen regent's principal advisor and serve on the Liqoqo.

They said the three had ruled that the queen mother could not dismiss anybody, have anyone killed nor sign any documents. She could continue to keep the regalia, they said, and they were only interested in "files".

Prince Bhekimpi then banned a meeting called by Queen Dzeliwe at Lobomba for yesterday morning, called to explain her side of the story. The prime minister said any of the princes who supported Queen Dzeliwe were guilty of treason — that is, guilty of trying to seize power from the heir apparent, Prince Makhosetive, who is at school in England.

Meanwhile the mother of the king designate, Queen Ntombi, has said she will not assume powers as queen as she is still mourning the death of the late king.

Opposition Rally Declared Illegal

MB141219 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1200 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] The deposed queen regent of Swaziland has failed to rally public support. Informed sources say deposed Queen Regent

Dzeliwe has tried to hold a meeting of national leaders, but it has not taken place. The gathering has been declared illegal by the prime minister.

Dzeliwe's main backer, Prince Gabheni Dlamini, wanted to use the meeting to challenge what he called Dzeliwe's unconstitutional removal. She was replaced as regent by Ntombi, whose teenage son has been named as the future king.

Ntombi Reluctant To Take Over

MB140640 Johannesburg Sunday Times in English 14 Aug 83 p 1

[*Sunday Times* "Extra"]

[Text] Swaziland's squabbling princes have called on the nation's chiefs to mediate in their power struggle. As tension mounted in the troubled kingdom this weekend, more than 50 chiefs gathered at the royal palace near Mbabane to try to resolve the dispute between the late King Sobhuza's heirs. It is believed there are nearly 70 of his sons, all princes, involved in the complex tussle for control of the state. Since the chiefs are divided regionally — not tribally — it is hoped they will be able to compose a peace formula to bring the feuding sons together.

Caught in the crossfire is the Army and police, who are supposed to keep order while Swaziland's hierarchy fight among themselves. It is believed that during the in-fighting one faction called in the Army to reinstate the deposed Queen Regent Dzeliwe, but were disappointed as the Army failed to intervene. Queen Dzeliwe is still guarded by the Army as usual, but tough new security measures have been taken to guard the Swazi Broadcasting House.

Swazi Prime Minister Prince Bhekimpi has appealed on TV that the Army should not interfere with the palace squabbles. Deepening the confusion is the rumour that the new queen regent, Princess Ntombi, said she was not keen to take over from Queen Dzeliwe.

The stakes in the power struggle are high but apart from the political power the winners stand to gain considerable wealth. Last year, Prince Makhosetive, the 15-year-old heir to King Sobhuza II's throne, became the crown prince by unanimous decision of the senior princes responsible for succession. King Sobhuza, who had more than 100 wives, ruled Swaziland for 61 years. His methods were secretive and since his death, outsiders and Swazis have found it difficult to determine the power balance between traditional monarchists and those seeking to introduce modern methods of government.

Queen Dzeliwe had been expected to rule until Prince Makhosetive, a student at a school in Dorset, England, reaches 21. The replacement of Queen Dzeliwe followed a marathon meeting last week in which the queen regent tried to disband the 15-member Liqoqo, the Royal Supreme Council of State.

Lobamba Reported Quiet

MB150917 Mbabane The Times of Swaziland in English 15 Aug 83 p 1

[Text] All was quiet at Lobamba at the weekend. The meeting that had been allegedly summoned by certain members of the royal family did not take place. This followed astrongly worded statement issued by the authorised person, Prince Sozisa on Friday saying that children of the late King Sobhuza II have no authority to summon the nation to Esibayeni.

In the statement Prince Sozisa also pointed out that the Elders of the Nation had been surprised to be informed that some children of the late king had in the name of the elders summoned the nation to Esibayeni on the pretext that Inkhosikati Dzeliwe was unconstitutionally removed from being Indlovukazi.

At Lobabma on Saturday things appeared normal with no signs of unusual movement of people. Only the familiar faces of people who live nearby were evident all around Lobamba. Members of the Umbutfo Swaziland Defense Force were on guard at the gates as usual, letting in and out cars to and from the royal residence.

The prime minister, Prince Bhekimpi spent most of Saturday afternoon chatting casually with some elders, members of the royal family and councillors in the precinct of the national offices at Lobamba. They started dispersing late in the afternoon. Among those present were Prince Myingwa, Prince Mkhatshwa, Prince Mahlaba, Princess Simangele, Prince Lushawulo of Ezulwini, the Senior Liaison Officer, Mr Mhambi Mnisi, Chief Madzanga, Senator Lushawulo Nhlabatsi and the deputy Minister for Commerce, Industry, Mines and Tourism, Mr Dabulumjiva Nhlabtsi.

Ealier on Friday, the prime minister described a statement published by the Tibiyo-owned *Swazi Observer* announcing the meeting as untrue, misleading and illegal. The paper quoted Prince Gabheni as saying: "The meeting will mainly explain to the nation how the queen regent (Indlovukazi) has been unconstitutionally ousted as the head of state."

ZIMBABWE

President Banana Leaves for PRC, DPRK 13 Aug

MB130753 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] The president of the senate, Comrade Nolan Makombe, will be sworn in as acting president this morning in the absence of Comrade Canaan Banana. The president, Comrade Canaan Banana, left Harare last night for a 10-day official visit to the PRC and the DPRK. Comrade Banana is accompanied by his wife, Comrade Janet, and two government ministers. He was seen off Harare Airport by the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe; the deputy prime minister, Comrade Simon Muzenda; Cabinet ministers; and members of the diplomatic corps.